

BAY AREA REPORTER

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TELEPHONE: 415/861-5019

Domestic Partners' Future

by M. J. Murphy

The marginal defeat of Proposition S last month has instigated a new round of discussions within the gay community concerning the future of domestic partners legislation in the City.

As the year draws to a close, political leaders and community activists are analyzing the successes and failures of the 1988 campaign in order to decide the next plan of action in the long, arduous battle for recognition of

gay relationships.

Although everyone agrees that Prop. S should have won the election on its merits, many have raised concerns that future legislation should include extended family considerations in addition to the original gay-oriented domestic partnership clause.

"What needs to happen now is that we need to sit down and figure out what we learned from the very narrow defeat of Prop. S,

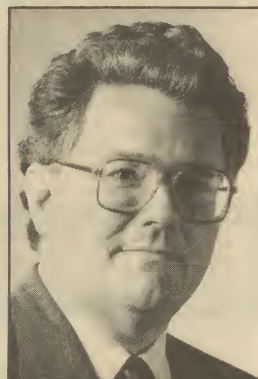
and figure out how we can go forward in a productive and inclusive way to ensure that this right is won, either through legislation or at the ballot box," said Scott Shafer, recently appointed press secretary for Mayor Art Agnos.

"It doesn't make a whole lot of sense that we would want to put something that was just defeated back on the ballot. That would only irritate people who felt excluded by previous efforts to pass

domestic partners legislation," Shafer said. "We need to make it better to ensure that it passes next time."

Last February, Leonard Gaff and Cynthia Goldstein, then National Gay Rights Advocates attorneys, submitted an Omnibus Family Equity Ordinance draft for Agnos' consideration. The draft appealed to the mayor's be-

(Continued on page 23)



Harry Britt on Domestic Partners, see page 14.



Party Time!

New Year's Eve revelers party on Castro earlier in the decade. The partying should be bigger than ever this year as we bid farewell to the '80s and usher in the gay '90s. Story, page 4.

(Photo: Rink)

God, Cops, Mates and Natural Disasters

by Allen White

1989 will go down in history as the year of the earthquake. Though most San Franciscans will not forget where they were at 5:04 p.m. on Oct. 17, the gay community will also remember 1989 as a year when the city was politically shaken and morally moved like few previous years.

The cloud of AIDS continued to hang heavy over the gay community. As the decade comes to an end, more than 5,000 people have died of the disease in San Francisco since 1981. For 1989 the final figure will exceed 1,200—about 100 people dying every month.

Throughout the year, God, and people claiming to be his representatives, vied with domes-

tic partners as the issues of the year. The year began with the fallout of Dignity, the organization of gay Roman Catholics, being prohibited from worshipping and praying in a Catholic church.

Attempts were made to eject Father Peter Sammon, a Catholic priest, from the Human Rights Commission, San Francisco's gay religious leaders spoke strongly against the naming of several straight priests, rabbis and ministers to the newly formed AIDS Commission, to the exclusion of any person from the gay religious community.

One of the most vocal opponents was Lynn Griffis, who represented herself as a minister of the Metropolitan Community



Gwenn Craig.

(Photo: George Kruse)

Church. In August, Griffis allegedly held several news conferences claiming to be the victim of gay beatings.

In the days that followed, it was (Continued on page 12)

Gay Czechs Bouncing Along

by Rex Wockner

As Czechoslovakia, along with most of Eastern Europe, races toward "freedom" and "democracy," the founders of the nation's first gay organization say the pace of change in the gay community is equally dizzying.

"I'm surprised you even got through on the telephone," said Jan Lany, founder of Lambda Prague, now called Lambda Czechoslovakia. "Many evenings I am on the phone all evening, counseling and taking calls."

Lany's home phone doubles as Prague's gay switchboard.

The most obvious impact of what Lany called "the Nov. 17 Revolution"—the day police violently broke up a student demonstration and unwittingly toppled the government—is the race to form gay groups throughout the country.

"Every day I receive news from another city ready to set up a group," Lany said. "There are three independent groups in

Prague now and organizations on the way in Ostrava, Brno, Bratislava, throughout the country."

Starting this month a new youth magazine will feature two "gay pages" every issue. This follows several positive newspaper reports on Lambda and the Czech gay community in the months following Lany and lover Richard's return from July's International Lesbian and Gay Association world conference in Vienna.

But Lambda does have a thorny media relations problem.

"I can't find anybody who is openly gay and can appear in front of TV cameras," Lany said. "Perhaps it's going to have to be LQ to talk for TV, but there are some difficult points with Richard's family. But I guess I am ready."

Lany does not think his job as a high school teacher would be imperiled if he became Czechoslovakia's first televised homosexual. ▼

Top 5 Gay Stories Inside the Beltway

Barney Frank Scandal Held Spotlight

by Cliff O'Neill

Unlike the year in general news, where earth-shattering changes on the political landscape and devastating natural disasters on the physical one made 1989 such a memorable year for all, events in gay and lesbian news throughout the year were much less conspicuous.

And from inside the Capital Beltway, while wins and losses on the gay and lesbian agenda were felt on a daily basis, none stood out as clearly as others had in years past.

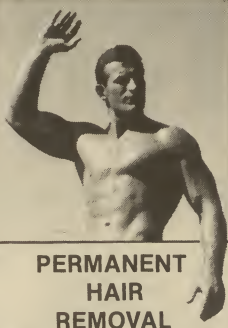
Unlike 1987, there was no Na-

tional March on Washington on which to focus. Unlike 1988, there was no landmark piece of legislation passed to compare with the federal AIDS omnibus bill.

Federal news in 1989 was marked by a series of dethronements and scandals, starting with John Tower in January, continuing with the Democratic House leadership in the summer and culminating in the fall with investigations into five senators in regards to their

(Continued on page 17)

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SCENE AND HERD

What: A Decade?

by Dave Ford

"What a year. What a week. What a Friday?" So exulted the *New York Times's* lead Dec. 23 editorial on the changes in Eastern Europe. Indeed. What a world. What a decade. What a month. What a relief—it's over. One theory holds that as a patient ends therapy, the "old ghosts" of his or her former neuroses—which presumably have been exorcised—make a final appearance. It's a last wave good-bye before the patient accepts the responsibility for repaired mental health and its imminent changes.

That happened culturally this year. The American Eighties were the Denial Decade: the country acted like one big, unhappy, dysfunctional family. While we "children" (the everyday citizens) hid our heads, our "Daddy"—a senile, smiling bag of polyps—frittered away "family money" on weapons to battle an enemy that—presto!—suddenly no longer existed. And Mommy? An anorexic, anal, morose woman of means, she ignored her family—and her "family"—and instead obsessed about her image.

So we "kids" acted out. We got greedy: we became addicted to money. We got high: we became addicted to drugs. We represent 2 percent of the nation's population, yet we consume 60 percent of its illicit drugs. "We are becoming a nation of compulsive drug users, a 'chemical people,'" one expert said recently. A recent study showed, surprisingly, that affluent white kids use drugs and alcohol more than do inner city blacks.

Worst of all, we cocooned in a warm, Jello-y bath of nostalgia. Whereas pop culture blossomed in the Fifties—the infancy both for rock music and television—baby boomers in the Eighties fearfully stopped the clock. *WashPost* TV crit Tom Shales called it the "Re" decade: rewind, regress. "Leave It To Beaver" re-turned. So did Tony the Tiger. And, this year, Woodstock.

Suddenly, this year (what a year), the "patient"—American/Sixties culture—had its "old ghosts" parade. In an astonishing flurry, rockers like Ringo Starr (the Beatles), the Who and the Rolling Stones tromped across the land, inspired a batch of lesser old hacks—the Jefferson Airplane, Poco, etc.—to reform and once more live out the old hippie dream.

In the context of the sketchy therapy model, this dinosaur stomp is a last-gasp clutch at the nostalgia that's kept us numb to imminent—and urgent—concerns: global warming, environmental decay, shifting political alliances. Now we face a choice: sober up and face the (new) music, or sink in a swamp of self-loathing befitting a decadent, wayward nation.

wrote Dec. 21 that the Panama action "...has shown [Bush] as a man capable of bold action..." Tell that to the Panamanians.

Answer II: you declare a war on drugs. Never mind if it misses: the Dec. 6 *N.Y. Times* reported that no new drug-fighting funds have reached Peru and Bolivia, the world's two largest coca growers. And a special California panel on prisons warned recently that "the current war on drugs will overwhelm the nation's correctional systems over the next five years." But gee, whiz—that bag of crack sure looked neat on TV.

Surface Up

Where are the strains showing? Try kids: they always act out their parents' buried angst.

"It sounds stupid, but what I was worried about was whether people would like what I was wearing," Nancy Reagan? Pat Buckley? Liberace? No: an 11-year-old girl who spent three hours choosing her back-to-school outfit. Teens are killing each other for \$100 Air Jordans, the Dec. 6 *Chron* reported. Is the kids' clothing industry decrying teens' fatal obsession with looks? Hell, no: "All of these [companies] understand... that if you own this child at an early age, you can own this child for years to come," said Kids R Us president Mike Searles. Indentured servitude? I Guess? so.

Is the plastic surgery industry decrying teens' fatal obsession with looks? Hell, no: at least not judging by the 200-300 percent increase in teen surgery, as reported in the Dec. 20 *N.Y. Times*. Sixteen percent of the 73,250 nose jobs performed in 1988 were done on people under 18. One surgeon told of a girl who showed him a picture of Christie Brinkley as a guideline; the girl was Middle Eastern. "Kids are so aware now of how they look," said Chicago plastic surgeon Wafik Hanna.

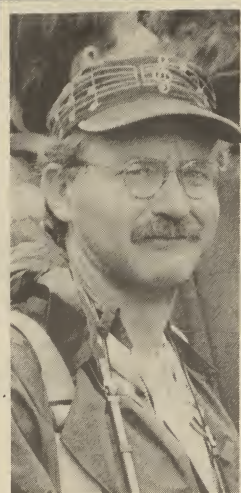
Hershey Highway

The decade slips home, the oddities keep on. What a month. In Houston, a store owner refused to change a window display showing a Santa mannequin holding three green ribbons tied around scantily clad female mannequins' necks. The female mannequins were gagged; their hands were bound with cellophane bows. Store owner Robert Ortega told 50 protesting women Dec. 18 that the window shows Santa unwrapping gifts.

Closer to home, an Amtrak train crashed outside of Stockton, killing three and trashing a tractor-trailer rig carrying Hershey's syrup. A tearful woman on the Dec. 19 KTVU "Ten O'Clock News" described the scene: "People were screaming, and there was chocolate everywhere." Two days later, a freight train jumped the tracks at Hercules; according to a Dec. 22 *Chron* report, UPS trailers "containing Christmas presents did not break open, but... boxes of macaroni and other food were scattered along the shoreline." There was pasta everywhere.

Close to Home

Us queers? Well, the Big A ruled the decade. 115,000 have died, and from 500,000 to 1.5 million Americans are thought to be HIV-infected. The December *Harper's* "Index" reports that 21,000 Americans died before Ronald Reagan said "AIDS" in a speech. In response to an ACT UP/LA protester at his recent visit to UCLA Med Center AIDS



Rick Gerharter.

**B.A.R. Names
Staff
Photographer**

The *Bay Area Reporter* has hired Rick Gerharter, a San Francisco photojournalist, to be its staff photographer. He joined the staff in mid-December.

Gerharter's work has appeared in *USA Today*, the *San Francisco Examiner*, *SF Weekly*, the *Advocate* and the *AFL-CIO News*, among other publications. It has been distributed by the Associated Press and by Impact Visuals in New York.

He has also worked as a staff photographer for the City College of San Francisco; as a general assignment photographer for the *San Francisco Independent*; as a staff photographer for the Service Employees International Union, Local 250, in San Francisco; and as a photographer's assistant for *Entrelinhas* in Fortaleza, Brazil.

Gerharter speaks Spanish, Portuguese and English.

He is a member of the National Press Photographers Association and of the Media Alliance of San Francisco.

Like most gay newspapers, the *Bay Area Reporter* heretofore has depended on the work of freelance photographers. With Gerharter's hiring, however, B.A.R. becomes one of the first gay newspapers to have a full-time staff photographer on call to cover assignments.

Brett Averill, editor-in-chief, said, "We're looking forward to working with Rick and using his imaginative photography to improve the appearance and quality of reporting in the *Bay Area Reporter*." ▼

babies, our brain-drilled, brain-dead, punk-hairstyle-wearing former president said, "I don't think he knows the facts. I appointed a national commission." Dong!

If the Reagan legacy is hundreds of thousands of AIDS deaths, the Boy Scout doesn't look much better. But little changes are occurring. In D.C., gays can be Big Brothers. A new soap opera produced, of all places, in Orange County, and to be marketed to cable stations, will feature homo story lines.

So the soap opera continues. What a story. What a week. What a month. What a year. What a decade. What is worry? I think we know our facts. ▼

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AIDS Health Project to Publish Legal Guide for Practitioners

by Michael C. Botkin

The AIDS Health Project will release a new book, *AIDS Law for Mental Health Practitioners*, this January, in conjunction with a conference it is sponsoring, "Beyond the Basics: Mental Health Challenges in the HIV Epidemic."

Both the book, which examines controversial legal and ethical issues, and the conference are funded by the Department of Mental Health.

"The book was originally proposed by the Department of Mental Health," said Paul Causey of AHP. "Initially they wanted us to provide a training session to go along with the book, but instead we suggested combining it with the conference."

The first of three days of the "Beyond the Basics" conference will be devoted to learning to use and understand the book.

"This is the first time I've heard of a book and a conference being combined this way," Causey said.

"There's an increasing need for awareness of these issues," said Gary Wood, legal consultant to AHP and one of the book's authors.

Mental health practitioners are legally required to protect the confidentiality of their clients, but they are also legally bound by a duty to warn people their client may endanger. The law is very vague about when one duty takes priority over the other.

The "duty to warn" is the result of the famous "Tarasoff

case" in which a psychologist was held responsible for failing to warn a woman that her boyfriend was considering hurting her.

Mental health practitioners are concerned that they could be held liable for failing to warn someone that their sexual partner has HIV.

Wood did not know of any cases where a counselor was sued for failing to warn someone that a client of theirs had HIV, but felt that the possibility of this was intimidating.

"Mental health care providers are nervous about this. They need to be told not to worry so much; that in fact it's very difficult to prove that a counselor had a 'duty to warn,'" Wood said.

However, there have been cases of health care providers being sued for inappropriately disclosing a client's HIV status.

"These situations are likely to arise in a mental health situation," said Robert Marks,

another of the book's authors. "There are a lot of things a person will tell their counselor that they wouldn't tell a doctor. We not only looked at what has been a problem, but also at things that are likely to arise," he said. Marks said that AHP had other book ideas under consideration.

"We will continue to look at ideas that focus on the professional relationship between caregivers and clients," Marks said.

AIDS Law includes sections on the mental health professional as a therapist, as a witness and adviser, and as a person with HIV. It addresses the duty to treat, confidentiality and the notorious "duty to warn," among other topics.

The "Beyond the Basics" conference sponsored by AHP will take place Jan. 17-19, at San Francisco State University. The registration fee includes a copy of the *AIDS Law* book. For more information about the conference, call 255-1297.



Paul Causey (left), Joseph Wilson and Robert Marks (seated) drafted the legal guide. (Photo: Rick Gerharter)

PWA Finds Assistance Troubles

by Cindy Bologna

Ed Romero, a PWA, has reported having continued difficulty collecting disaster relief funds stemming from damages in the Oct. 17 earthquake.

Romero reports that his apartment received considerable damage to its walls and ceilings as a result of the earthquake, and that he has lost close to \$30,000 worth of belongings. He further stated that he has had to move to another unit in the building because of the damage.

"I'm just not getting the help I need or deserve," Romero said. "I work as a consultant, helping people obtain government benefits, but when it's my turn to receive help, I can't seem to get any."

Romero reports he filed an application with FEMA on Oct. 23, six days after the earthquake. Staff at FEMA reportedly stated they could help him out, but later decided he was not eligible for the funds originally applied for. Because only his apartment, and not the entire building was uninhabitable, he was only eligible to apply for a grant, with a maximum ceiling of about \$10,000.

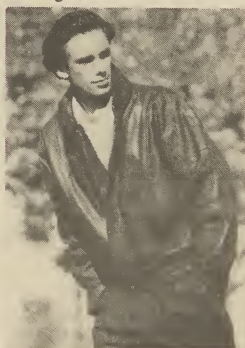
"Ed Romero fell into a FEMA regulation which states that if you move to another unit in the

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RETAIL ENTERTAINMENT!

(Continued on page 20)

Kids, Don't Try This at Home

by Michael C. Botkin

The old medical double-speak expression "the operation was a success but the patient died," is the best way to describe the recent bone marrow transplant treatment of HIV. It did, some believe, wipe out HIV in the patient's body. But, medical first that it is, I would be more impressed if they had eliminated the HIV without killing the patient.

Using a bone marrow transplant in combination with AZT may make sense for an HIVer who needs one anyway. But it makes little sense as a treatment for HIV in the absence of lymphoma or leukemia. If you are an HIVer who's completely healthy, chances are that even without any treatment you'll be fine for a year. Compared to a mere 50-50 chance (if that) of living more than a year after a bone marrow transplant, it makes no sense to contemplate one.

On the other hand, if you're an HIVer with serious symptoms, a bone marrow transplant is out of the question—chances are it'll kill you, fast. Just about any of the experimental treatments currently being investigated, including passive immunotherapy

and compound Q, give you a better chance at less risk and cost.

In fact, it's hard to see how this line of research will ever pay off. It's often difficult to find a bone marrow donor. The procedure is always expensive, always painful, always dangerous. Unlike some treatments which could, with commercial development, become affordable, there's no way to provide bone marrow transplants for the masses. It's a perfect example of how hi-tech, hi-profit medicine serves the medical establishment but not the people.

The bone marrow transplant for HIVers has already produced lots of good press for the researchers, and will no doubt net them some fat grants. But will it save lives? It hasn't yet—even in the case of first and only "success."

New Theory Hard to Digest

Because western medical science was at such a loss at the beginning of the HIV epidemic, many people turned to alternative treatments, such as holistic and eastern methods. Even though the medical establishment did eventually come up

with some treatments, the failure to find the "magic bullet" has left the door open for these non-traditional health care providers. Overall, this is probably a healthy trend, as it tends to infringe on the medical mainstream's monopoly and makes the whole system more competitive. However, it has also allowed some blatant rip-offs to flourish.

I am still plowing through a phone-book thick stack of studies on Ozone therapy, and a slightly less impressive tome on the use of Sufi mysticism in the treatment of HIV. But the "AIDS Control Diet" takes the prize as the least convincing treatment for HIV I have ever seen.

The diet rests on a theory that HIV resides not in the bloodstream but in the lower bowel of the intestinal tract. The author of this theory, Mark Konlee, isn't fazed at all by the massive body of literature supporting current beliefs about HIV, or by the existence of successful therapies based on these theories. Instead, Konlee says, the virus lives off incompletely digested foods in the body, and HIV can therefore be cured by avoiding difficult-to-digest foods.

Other aspects of the therapy include "colon cleansing," fasting, enemas and "garlic suppositories before bedtime." At least you won't have to worry about being rimmed by a vampire.

"Foods strictly forbidden" include: meat, poultry, fish, eggs, cheese, milk, wheat, oats, barley, rye, breads, pasta, tofu, beans, nuts of any kind, and pizza. In case you're wondering what this leaves, potatoes, corn, fruit juice, sugar-free soda and yogurt are allowed.

As "proof" of the effectiveness of this treatment, Konlee cites the case of a person whose T-cell count went from 800 to 840. Apparently Konlee has never heard of lab error or simple daily variation in T-cells.

What makes this "treatment" scary instead of just amusing is that it's actively dangerous. Wasting syndrome is a serious symptom of HIV, and the diet outlined above seems to preclude the possibility of adequate nutrition, even if you don't engage in the long and regular fasts the theory encourages.

Crackpot theories like these can only hurt the development of genuine alternative treatments for HIV. We need a system that will consider and evaluate alternative treatments as well as the high-tech, good-profit-potential products currently pushed by the drug industry.



Hank Cook passed away on December 27, 1989

Rosary will be said Friday, December 29, 7 p.m. at Halsted, N. Gray, Carew & English, 1123 Sutter (near Larkin)
Mass will be said Saturday, December 30, 10 a.m. at St. Brigid's, Van Ness & Broadway

Full obituary and comments in next week's Bay Area Reporter

Avoiding the "A" Word

The "AIDS backlash" has driven many HIV advocates to seek low-profile ways to promote the cause. Because the very mention of the "A" word draws unwanted media attention and its attendant hysteria, it is avoided as much as is practical.

The recently passed Cobra extension bill is an example of this. According to Representative Nancy Pelosi's aide Stephen Morin, the bill was called "the AIDS COBRA bill" by everyone on the House Ways and Means committee. Although the bill will in fact help any disabled person who fits the criteria, a disproportionate number of them will probably be people with HIV, so the nick-

name isn't that far off. But if it had actually been labeled that way, it might never have passed.

The consensus among lobbyists is that it's best to avoid the "A" word whenever you can.

Yes it is, but unfortunately nobody has come up with anything to reliably counter the AIDS hysteria. An emotional appeal to the public's irrational fear of HIV almost always sweeps away any and all logical arguments—look at the frightening numbers of people who vote for the fascist propositions promoted by the LaRouchies. Until we come up with a cure for AIDSphobia, it will be difficult to get the support we need to find a treatment for HIV.

New Year's Eve Events

by Allen White

New Year's Eve is special this year with the beginning of a new decade. There will be a wide range of party opportunities across the city.

This year's New Year's Eve mega-party, "Decade—Dance To The Future" at the Giftcenter Pavilion, 8th and Brannan streets, starts at 9 p.m. Jim Nelson has designed a multi-level set that will be used to its fullest throughout the evening. Singer Ernest Kohl will be part of the presentation. Fred Kelly from Brompton's and Heaven in London will be the DJ for the party. Organizers say there will be surprises every hour throughout the night.

The event will be a fundraiser for the San Francisco AIDS Emergency Fund with a minimum of \$1,000 pledged to help people with AIDS. The party goes until 4 a.m. Tickets are \$30 in advance at Ticketron, All-American Boy and other outlets; \$35 at the door. Call 563-0176 for information.

Dreamland's "MCMX—Party To The Nines" starts at 9:30 p.m. A special effects spectacular is planned throughout the night with DJ Robbie Leslie providing the music. There will be complimentary champagne at midnight and complimentary

breakfast at dawn. Advance tickets are \$20 at all Headlines.

The I-Beam on Haight Street starts its New Year's Eve party at 5 p.m. with the regular weekly tea dance. No admission until 9 p.m. The theme for their party is "Decade." At 9 they will go into high gear with a live telecast of New Year's Eve at Times Square in New York. Singer E.G. Daly entertains at 9:30. Throughout the evening the I-Beam will feature gorgeous hunks who will model and do what they do best to entertain. DJ is Michael Garrett. At midnight there will be free champagne. The cost after 9 p.m. is \$10 with an I-Beam pass and \$15 general admission.

Community favorite Sharon McNight returns to San Francisco for a New Year's Eve Party at the Great American Music Hall at 9:45 p.m. There will be champagne and party favors. Tickets are \$40 at all BASS outlets and are on sale at the Great American Music Hall box office, which is open noon till 6 p.m. daily.

But the best party for many on New Year's Eve continues to be at the corner of 18th Street and Castro, where people emerge from area bars providing a unique reflection of San Francisco's gay community.



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EXECUTIVE & EDITORIAL OFFICES:
395 Ninth Street
San Francisco, CA 94103-3831

TELEPHONE:
(415) 861-5019, 861-7230

PUBLISHER:
Bob Ross

EDITOR IN CHIEF:
Brett Averill

NEWS EDITOR:
Jeff Boswell

FEATURES EDITOR:
Daniel Mangin

PRODUCTION EDITOR:
Michael Yamashita

FINE ARTS EDITOR:
George Heymont

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CAMERA, PRODUCTION:
Rand Whittaker

TYPESETTING:
Henry Mach

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER:
Rick Gerharter

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS:
George T. Kruse, T.L. Litt,
PhotoGraphics/Darlene,
Robert Pruzan, Rink,
Steve Savage

CARTOONISTS:
Kurt Erichsen, Frisch, Kris Kovick

LEGAL COUNSEL:
Thomas E. Horn, Esq.

AUDITOR/ACCOUNTANT:
Robert J. Dern, C.P.A.

CONTRIBUTORS:
Dorothy Allison, Les Balmain,
Noreen Barnes, Drew Blakeman,
Ron Bluestein, Cindy Bologna,
Michael C. Botkin, Philip
Campbell, Dennis Conkin, Steve
Dambach, Gregory Douthwaite,
Dave Ford, Wayne Friday,
Wayne Herriford, George
Heymont, Mike Hippler, Patrick
Hoctel, Frank J. Howell, Mark
Johnson, Brian Jones, John Karr
Kevin Killian, Henry Mach,
Mr. Marcus, Richard McPherson,
MJ Murphy, Jay Newquist,
Nes Paz, Ray O'Loughlin,
Cliff O'Neill, David Perry,
Mary Richards, Wendell Ricketts,
Rick Ritt, Marv. Shaw, David
Smyth, Will Snyder, David
Taylor-Wilson, Rick Thoman,
James Tushinski, Dick Walters,
Lauren Ward, Allen White,
Keith White, Rex Wockner,
Bob Woolhouse



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EDITORIAL & OPINION

Resolutions for a New Year

At Christmas, people make wish lists, hoping that someone close will satisfy deeply felt desires. Come New Year's Day we make resolutions, determining to take the responsibility for improving our lives onto ourselves. While these generally tend toward the mundane—"I'll stick to my diet"—they serve as outward expressions of a genuine desire to improve oneself and one's station in life.

The gay and lesbian community, by the fact of its openly acknowledged existence, takes conscious responsibility each and every day for improving the world and our place in it. In a sense, New Year's resolutions are redundant for us. But... what if?

What if we resolved *en masse* to undertake certain specific actions on behalf of the common good? It's a fantasy, of course—the gay and lesbian community never does anything *en masse*. In fact, our independence of spirit is one of our chief collective strengths. But let's indulge ourselves for a moment by pretending that all of us have taken a vow to work in a conscious, steadfast manner to improve the world. Here are a few tasks we might set out to accomplish.

- Eliminate racism within the gay community. Why do our bars and other gathering places so often adhere, however informally, to segregation? Why do we still see personal ads reading "GWM seeks same"?
- Break down the barriers dividing non-gay ethnic communities from gay men and lesbians, who are perceived, incorrectly, as being almost entirely white. Make friends across ethnic lines on personal, professional and community levels.
- Redefine the American family. Start with the expansion of San Francisco's defeated domestic partnership ordinance, which took the form of a narrowly defined gay rights issue, into a measure that includes under its aegis all manner of extended and nontraditional family.
- Fight sexism, the first cousin of homophobia. When gay men subjugate female co-workers, oppose abortion, or caricature women, they demean themselves.
- Economic justice for all. Continue cutting the Pentagon's budget and appropriate the money to human services for human beings.
- Oppose violence except when there is no other alternative for the immediate preservation of human life. (No, George Bush's Panamanian adventure does not qualify.) Remember that January is named for Janus, the two-faced Roman god, the patron of beginnings and endings, whose temple in Rome closed only in times of universal peace. Let's work for the permanent closing of that temple.

GUEST OPINION

Church and State

by Alex Brevenar

Remembering as I do the strongly divided opinion in the gay and lesbian community over the SANOE demonstration at the San Francisco Opera House this year, I wanted to make public my thoughts about the similarly militant actions of ACT UP and WHAM activists directed against Roman Catholic churches in New York, Los Angeles and San Francisco, Sunday, Dec. 10, in the hope that further divisive pressures do not harm our chances for making some progress together.

Consider the "con" aspects of the protests: Were they aesthetically offensive? Some might argue that they were. Might they have the effect of polarizing the greater society on the issues of AIDS, the use of condoms for birth control and for safer sex by Roman Catholics, and the Church's position on abortion? Probably. Could such polarization reduce the chances for constructive dialogue with more moderate elements in the Church, in the near future? Almost certainly. And is there the possibility of a violent backlash against gays and lesbians, in the form of everything from street attacks to a decrease in charitable donations by Catholics to AIDS programs. Yes. Those are all very real possibilities.

Now consider the "pro" aspects: Did the protests gain media attention? Not as much as might be hoped, but any is better than none. Did they heighten public awareness of the issues involved? Insofar as the media coverage was accurate, they must have had some effect—and insofar as it was not, they did not have the full impact one might desire. Did they ventilate rage? Yes.

But even though I have strong misgivings about the use of some of the tactics employed by the protestors, I am forced to agree that the method of such demonstrations is philosophically justifiable, for the following reasons (and where I refer specifically to the Roman Catholic Church, parallels could be drawn to Protestant fundamentalists and orthodox Jews as well):



Idealistic? Admittedly. But then, in its early days, so was the gay rights movement. It has accomplished far more in these few short years than any realistic person then would have thought possible.

Make New Year's resolutions, and let them be more than a laundry list. Let them take the form of a personal blueprint for a better world. ▼

Our society maintains the traditional fiction (tradition not specifically spelled out in the Constitution as such, by the way) of a Jeffersonian "separation of church and state." Churches enjoy tax-exempt status in large measure because of their assumed exclusion from the political arena of American life.

But church officials do make political statements and do take actions that have a political effect with regard to election issues (e.g., the recent domestic partners proposition in San Francisco), state and federal legislation (e.g., abortion laws), Supreme Court decisions (e.g., cases involving sexual behavior between consenting males), public health issues (e.g., the conference of American bishops, denouncing condoms as a method to reduce the transmission of HIV infection), and political campaigns, (e.g., the Bentley/Killea race in California a few weeks ago.) Church representatives say that such pronouncements are not political in nature, because they are not really directed toward politicians—often, they are only meant as moral instructions for the faithful as they try to make their own private political decisions.

I am not persuaded by this distinction, especially when the political influence wielded by the Church takes a form like the excommunication of someone running for office on a platform that is not approved of by the Church hierarchy. I'm not saying the Church shouldn't do such a thing. But I am saying it is hypocritical to pretend that such actions are apolitical and intended only as "moral instruction to the faithful!" The Roman Catholic Church, in particular, has already made its view clear on what individuals and organizations should expect when they leave the cloister or the closet and enter the realm of political realities in the temporal world: The Vatican has said very explicitly that people should "not be surprised" if violence is the result when they do exercise political powers to which they have "no justifiable" claim, by which exercise was meant the movement for gay civil rights. I would extend the same warning to the leadership of the Roman Catholic Church: As deplorable as it is to contemplate more disruption of church services or the defacement of tax-exempt church property, one must not be surprised at violent retaliation from those who feel themselves to be the recipients of a deliberate political attack originating from and funded by the Church, since American mores (and tax laws) deny the Church the right to such an attack. ▼

Targets for Protest

★ I have always had a problem with S.A.N.O.E.'s choice of targets for their actions: opera patrons and Marin commuters. Now we have a sizeable number of really suitable alternatives. Might I suggest:

Rev. and Concord City Councilman Lloyd Mashore.

The Concord (Selma of the West) City Council.

San Francisco Planning & Urban Research Association (SPUR), the apparently all-straight "civic" organization which lent a veneer of mainstream credibility to the "No on S" crazies from their Sutter Street headquarters.

Rev. Amos Brown, Third Baptist Church and Black Leadership Forum, spokesman for No on S. If you think our real friend Cecil Williams represents the typical black church, take another look at the votes from Hunters Point and Bayview.

The Archdiocese, who ran their "No on S" drive from their offices on Church Street.

Father Robert McElroy, St. Cecilia's Church on 17th Avenue, the Archbishop's point man, who called our relationships "the most transient of human relationships" (*S.F. Independent*, Nov. 8).

Getting off the Prop. S theme, there are also these candidates from a recent *Village Voice* article:

Amnesty International, which refused to classify gays imprisoned around the world (Cuba, Chile, Iran...) as political prisoners.

The NAACP, whose chief lobbyist recently stated that they had "no position" on gay rights.

There are plenty of real enemies out there, and a surprising number of them are a lot closer than inaccessible North Carolina, Washington, Orange County or Havana, and after this Prop. S humiliation, it may be time to stop their momentum before they think of new attacks on our community.

Eric Nunez
San Francisco

Getting Headlines

★ Last year when we (the gay and lesbian community) went to the polls we were concerned, among other things, with mandatory AIDS testing. This year we were concerned with domestic partners. Since we are not a majority at the polls, we have to rely on support from reasonable straight people in order to achieve our objectives. (Forget the hardcore homophobes.)

The fact that we do receive help is the result of increasing awareness and understanding brought about in large measure by the work of many organizations such as the Names Project.

Does it increase understanding, however, to block traffic on the Golden Gate Bridge? Does it increase understanding to disrupt the opening night of the opera? It obviously does not. In fact, it is counterproductive, as the failure of Proposition S indicates.

Any of us who knows someone in ACT UP should make an effort to convince that person that their juvenile ego-trip is not doing any of us any good. Blowing up a plane over Scotland gets headlines too!

Robert Wickersham
San Francisco

Joining the Criticism

★ This is in response to some of Michael Botkin's reaction to criticism regarding his analysis of the Compound Q trial (Nov. 9). Botkin states that Dr. Alvin Novick's judgment of the trial as "poorly designed scientifically and ethically" is solitary; in fact, Botkin says that Novick "is the only person who does" think it is bad science. Wrong. Dead wrong. I described it thus in my critique of "activism" (*B.A.R. Guest Opinion*, Oct. 12), as have others. I suspect that when others, such as Dr. Krim and Michael Callen, did not criticize it, it was an attempt to calm the waters rather than to stir up more controversy. Before and during the trial, the organizers insisted that it was not a "study" but a "treatment program," but after the fact have described it as a "toxicity study" despite the fact that they did not design the trial to determine toxicity cautiously as is appropriate. Even five months later they still do not have statistical analysis of their data which would be a routine part of the protocol for any ethical trial. The organizers claim improvements in some clinical findings, but cannot state that the differences are significant. From the look at the raw data which they have provided, I doubt that they are.

There is no "double standard," as Botkin suggests. As Botkin describes us, for "...those of us with our lives on the line" it is especially important that clinical trials be done ethically and professionally so the risks need not be run again, and studies done will provide answers, not just more questions. A scientific reporter, such as Botkin purports to be, should be thoroughly trained in the science he is reporting or he must simply report, without editorializing, the reaction of experts such as Dr. Novick. Botkin's reporting (and he is not alone in this regard) is not

educated or balanced, and that is where his phrase "smacks of hypocrisy" should apply.

W.L. Warner, MD
San Francisco

Liberty and Equality

★ It seems that every time an initiative favoring gay rights fails at the polls, some pessimistic crystal ball-gazers, such as Jesse Helms and "good ol'" Willie Dannemeyer, interpret the outcome as the beginning of the end for the gay liberation movement. They obviously don't have the mental capacity to recognize that our local/national communities define each setback at the ballot box as merely an excellent lesson on how to do it better next time; and there will be a next time, and a next time, even into infinity, until we achieve our just rights as upstanding, taxpaying citizens of this nation.

The right-wing fundamentalists cannot grasp the fact that we gays have breathed the clean fresh air of freedom too long now to even consider returning to the stale, oppressive atmosphere of the closet; that since Stonewall, we have been in the mainstream and intend to stay there by continuing to fully participate in the political/social banquet and by persevering in our demand for our fair share of the ambrosial fare called equality.

Many of our beloved brothers and sisters are no longer with us. Nevertheless, we owe it to the tender memories of their all-too-brief time with us, and toward assuring a brighter future for our descendants, to continue the struggle. Our future depends on our determination. As for me, give me liberty and total equality or I'll take them!

Jerry R. DeYoung
San Francisco

Freedom

★ In just a few days, we enter the decade of the '90s. This will be a decade of growth and change as well as a time of challenges and risks. The events in East Germany and China illustrate the potentials in change, both positive and negative. In this nation, we are seeing a similar struggle of a people determined to live free. Gays and lesbians continue to strive for equality and justice, regardless of the obstacles placed in our way by a fearful and intolerant society.

As an American I do not allow anyone to infringe upon my rights without putting up tremendous resistance. I believe resistance in the face of oppression is the duty of any citizen who wishes to remain free. It matters not how the majority may feel. There is a time when individuals must speak the truth, regardless of how disinterested, annoyed, angered, or frightened the majority may feel. Being a "squeaky wheel" is what freedom of speech is all about.

Now more than ever, we must speak clearly and forcefully regarding our right as Americans to freedom and justice. We must assert our claim to equal treatment, nothing more and certainly, nothing less. This community must understand that I will determine through love and devotion the nature of my family. No one else will define for me what constitutes "family." I will commit myself to a monogamous relationship with a person with whom I am in love, regardless of the discriminatory treatment we may face because that person is of the same gender. I will function openly and honestly within society, despite the fact that this openness will make some feel "uncomfortable" because it is my right as a human being not to be forced to hide.

Like it or not, I am an American exercising my rights and responsibilities as an equal citizen in a free country. Fortunately, we have a tradition in this country of respecting and protecting the rights of the individual against the tyranny of the majority. I, for one, will only resolve to assert even more forcefully, my rights.

Robert Birle
Pleasanton, CA

Slime

★ I just had to write. "This is Truth" by J. Parkes (Dec. 7), just about broke my heart. I'm having a damned hard time stopping my tears. I just find it so hard to believe that someone could do something like that! He (Parkes) should have published the bastard's name since no one is safe from that slime.

Jesus Christ, I just feel so damn bad for Mr. Parkes. Part of me wishes I had never read that story, but I am glad I did.

Laverte McDonald
San Francisco

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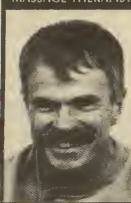
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BAY AREA REPORTER DECEMBER 28, 1989 PAGE 8

A Reply from Bumfuck, Texas

★ Here in Bumfuck there are two kinds of gay folks: those who move and shake (thundering herd, if you will) and those who kri-tique. I suspect the same is true in San Francisco. I get the impression from reading your witty letter in the *B.A.R.* (Nov. 16), that instead of organizing your friends to help you hand out hand-outs in Polk Gulch concerning "Yes on S," you prefer to critique the movers and shakers because they did not. (They probably did the best they could with limited time, money and volunteers.)

You yammer on about "pretense and attitude." Let me tell you something. Phony people are not unique to the gay community. Are there no phony straights? Hell, we even have a few deep in the heart of. No more than a few, of course.

But where are the phony San Franciscans? When I was stationed at Camp Stoneman, just outside of San Francisco, during World War II, I would rush to my "magic city" every time I had a three-day pass. And I've visited the city I left my heart in many times since. I'm pleased to say I've met few pretentious people (gay or straight) there. Most were rank and file—just like you and I. As one of 3,482 athletes who competed in Gay Games II, I believe I speak for all when I say, "You've heard of Southern Hospitality? Honey, that ain't nothin' compared to San Franciscan hospitality!"

You write of "dripping-with-pathos stuff on The Quilt." You may be right, but I think if there's anything that deserved unabashed (honest) pathos, it's the Quilt.

You question the existence of a gay community. On this you are wrong. Let me quote from the concluding remarks of the narrative/dance/song/humor/pictorial presentation of "The Gay/Lesbian History of Texas":

"There was a time when gay men and lesbians had no history, no culture, and no love for ourselves or for each other. Only in the last few years have we become a community fighting for our rights. But by fighting for our rights we are, in effect, fighting for everyone's rights because the gay community is male and female, black and white, Hispanic and Jewish, old and young. Ours is the only community that contains within it every other community and every other community's issues."

"So you and I have the opportunity, indeed the responsibility to do something that's never been done before in the history of humankind: that is to create a family that is multi-linguistic, multi-religious and multi-colored. We can provide the seed and a model for the dream that the whole world has always longed for. A world in which there is no more war, no more destruction of the environment, no more mass hunger and overpopulation, and no more hatred. If we do not succeed, the world is lost. Because the gay and lesbian community, being so all-inclusive, is the world's last best hope."

Therefore, the defeat of "Yes on S" is not a setback for the "Gay World as We Know It in Sin City." Because no man is an island, it is a setback for everyone—even those of us in Bumfuck.

Mr. Heimforth, instead of kri-tique-ing, join the thundering herd.

Phil Johnson
Dallas Gay/Lesbian Archives
Dallas, TX

If They Can't Take a Joke...

★ Christian fundamentalists try to tell me which religion I may or may not belong to and which opinions I should or should not express.

It seems that both the religious right and the politically correct are horrified by the same thing: those who think and speak for themselves.

Well, fuck 'em both!!

David Alexander
San Francisco

Some Tough Lessons

★ I want to praise you for publishing the article "This Is Truth" by John Parkes in the Dec. 7 issue of the *B.A.R.*, because it raises some issues that deserve examination in a public forum. However, I have less praise for the author of the article. Thanks also for printing the two letters in response to the article in your Dec. 14 issue. The letter from D.W. Wade put my thoughts into words perfectly, but the letter from Ron Nicholas was glib, thoughtless, knee-jerk reaction. How dare Nicholas suggest that Parkes impose his own form of "justice" on the suspected, but presumptively innocent, perpetrator!

To Mr. Parkes: I wish you no ill, but welcome to the Real World of grown-up people who take responsibility for their own actions. How nice to have someone else to blame for their own folly. You may find

comfort in blaming "Roberto" for your HIV-positive status, but the truth is that you *may* have infected him. After all, infection is a reciprocal process, and you stated that you were not tested before your encounter with "Roberto," but now know yourself to be infected. Have you informed "Roberto" about your latest test results?

If your doctor maintains that you were infected by this singular encounter with "Roberto," then he is probably guilty of malpractice. It is very unlikely that you would have become ill and tested positive so soon after this encounter. You don't say when you were tested, but June 1 was less than six months ago. Were you tested for hepatitis or anything else that might have caused your immediate illness? You say that you did not previously engage in unsafe sex, but how often did you fish used condoms out of the toilet in the past?

There are a number of tough lessons for all of us to learn from Mr. Parkes' experience.

(1) What you do in bed is entirely your own decision and your own responsibility. If you don't care enough about your own health and safety to say "No," then why should a total stranger?

(2) Anyone who insists on having unsafe sex is probably infected.

(3) Anyone who is hostile about using a condom probably won't use it correctly, which is difficult even with the best of intentions.

(4) Condoms *do* fail, and with the wrong lubricant they disintegrate completely.

(5) If you engage in unsafe sex with a total stranger simply because he says he is HIV-negative, then you deserve whatever you get. Sorry, it's unfortunate, but true.

(6) Condoms should be inspected before and during sex, not just after the fact, when it is too late.

(7) Sex does not always have to include penile penetration of a bodily orifice in order to be worthwhile. Do you really want to entrust your life to a hair-thin membrane of latex every time you have sex?

And finally,

(8) Community newspapers like the *BAR* and the *Sentinel* should make it an absolute policy to reject all personal ads that seek HIV-negative individuals or solicit unsafe sex of any kind. While this may not stop anyone from endangering himself, it would send out a public message that is long overdue. Publishing articles like Mr. Parkes' is simply not enough! As the saying goes, if you are not part of the solution, then you are part of the problem.

If Mr. Parkes and "Roberto" had met through an ad in the *BAR*, would "This Is Truth" have been published in the first place? One wonders.

David San Pablo
San Francisco

Watch the Costs

★ During the past few weeks, there have been several articles in the *B.A.R.* and other local media regarding the apparent lack of funds to operate several AIDS support groups.

In my circle of friends and co-workers, which includes all lifestyles, there is a concern about the administrative costs of these groups, especially in the area of salaries. While it is important to have well-qualified people to head the groups (where necessary they should receive compensation), it is important for these people to be "volunteers" at heart. When the salaries equal or are above what can be earned in the business sector, it creates a question as to whether donations are forthcoming.

Figures released for a recent AIDS fundraiser showed almost 50 percent used in costs and 5 percent of the total received for the coordinator of the event.

Support groups, thanks for the great work being done! Please take a close look at the administrative costs.

Rev. J. Busker
San Francisco

Complicated Issues

★ I object to the headline in the Dec. 7 edition, "ZYZZYA Pushes AIDS Jokes." It is not the jokes that the Winter issue is pushing, but an analysis of this part of the folklore of AIDS by a major scholar. Not all of the AIDS folklore is as benign as the Quilt. Some of it is as malignant and repulsive as the jokes. But it seemed useful to me, at this late date, to take a look at that subset of the oral tradition.

One of the interesting things that Professor Dundes points out is how AIDS jokes have changed over time—as the crisis itself has changed and been redefined. They long ago, for example, ceased to be exclusively homophobic. So it is unfortunate that Michael C. Botkin took such quick offense, without trying to understand the complicated issues at stake.

Best regards,

Howard Junker, Editor
ZYZZYA
San Francisco

Reagan, Bush and The AIDS Epidemic

After nearly eight years of total inaction, when he might have made a difference by doing something about the AIDS epidemic, former President Ronald Reagan visited children with the disease last week at UC Medical Center in Los Angeles, passed out toys and posed for a few photos. Reagan, who consistently refused to take a leadership role in the fight against AIDS during his two-term presidency and barely mentioned it, said last week, "I hope my visit will bring more attention to the need to do something about this horrible disease."



Ronald Reagan.

Thanks for nothing, Mr. President.

Reagan's successor, on the other hand, seems to have at least some understanding of the seriousness of the AIDS epidemic, and there is hope among those fighting the disease that the Bush administration will display a marked difference from that of Ronald Reagan.

President Bush visited with gay men suffering with AIDS in Bethesda, Maryland, last week,

and called for "compassion and understanding" for AIDS patients. Taking time out from what was probably the most hectic week of his presidency, Bush met with two groups of AIDS patients—one group made up mostly of adult gay men and the other of infected children who were accompanied by their parents.

Those who watched Bush talking with and attempting to comfort the gay men he visited said that the president showed an "obviously deep concern" for those suffering.

The president was overheard telling some of the men he visited that more education about the disease is needed, noting that many Americans still don't want to help and don't want to become involved, mostly because of misplaced fear. He added that, incredibly, some are still "afraid of holding an AIDS patient because they're afraid of getting AIDS. Barbara and I want to say—and we hope to continue to demonstrate this—they are wrong."

Bush said AIDS researchers are "heroes" who are "giving the greatest gift imaginable, the gift of life."

To demonstrate that there is no reason to fear AIDS patients, both the president and his wife kissed small children with the disease at the Maryland hospital. One of the children, a 9-year-old boy, told Bush, "I hope everyone can be cured," to which the president replied, "I believe it will happen."

The fact that George Bush met with openly gay men suffering from the disease was being hailed by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force as the first time that an administration has clearly acknowledged that the disease "has a particular impact on the gay community and gay people."

A spokesperson for the Task Force called on Bush to push for approval of the Americans with Disabilities Act, which was described as a "civil rights act for people with all sorts of disabilities, including AIDS."

Clearly, George Bush sees the severity of this epidemic in a light that Ronald Reagan never did, and though the jury is still out on how the Bush administration confronts the growing epidemic, there is real hope for this president on the AIDS crisis. Only time will tell whether Bush is ready to follow up last week's highly public photo opportunity with meaningful commitments against the AIDS epidemic.

Has George Bush done the right thing by sending the troops into Panama, ousting General Manuel Noriega and installing a new president? Well, predictably, there were the usual demonstrators at the Federal Building last week, wringing their hands, condemning the action. I'm certainly no foreign policy expert, but if ever there was just cause for getting rid of a drug-running thug—well, I have to come down on the side of President Bush.

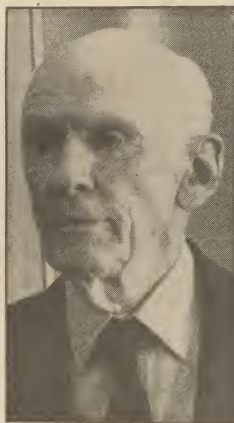
As to the anti-Bush demonstrators: Why is it you always see the same ones demonstrating—whatever the issue?



U.S. Rep. Barbara Boxer

Both California senators, incidentally, have publicly backed Bush on the action, while our own Rep. Nancy Pelosi, whose first reaction was one of "great disappointment" at the military action, later changed her mind and endorsed the Bush move when U.S. officials said Noriega might have been planning an assault on an American neighborhood in Panama City.

Rep. Barbara Boxer could not be reached by the B.A.R. for her reaction, but most other California congressmembers backed the military move, with the exception of Berkeley's Ron Dellums and Rep. Don Edwards of Los Angeles, who was traveling in Hungary and issued a scathing denunciation of Bush and the invasion.



Sen. Alan Cranston.

(Photo: S. Savage)

And speaking of Alan Cranston, what is this guy up to? Poor Alan, a man who has always been eager to get his name in the news, complained that the terrible California press had "pounded" upon him and his intended third wife (he divorced the first two

after each became ill). The senator, who already has enough problems with the nosey press, decided that he and his intended would "cancel" their planned Christmas Eve wedding. This guy has such problems!

As for the Keating S&L scandal, it won't stop. This week Attorney General John Van de Kamp was again defending his actions against the Lincoln group and denying once more that his staff weakened an order to restrict the thrift's sales of now-worthless junk bonds.

Dianne Feinstein, Van de Kamp's Democratic gubernatorial opponent, is fast making the attorney general's "lack of decisions" a political issue, and Van de Kamp is clearly uncomfortable.

Senator Pete Wilson, meanwhile, another gubernatorial hopeful, quickly announced this week that he is returning the \$16,500 that Lincoln President Charles Keating donated to his campaign. Will Alan Cranston do likewise? Nearly a million bucks that the senator got after he intervened on Keating's behalf? Don't bet on it, since, as Cranston says, "it was merely the kind of service he would offer any constituent." Ha!

Senator Cranston accepted more than \$900,000 for campaign contributions from Charles Keating while actively pressuring regulators on behalf of the troubled Lincoln Savings & Loan. The senator, meanwhile, insists that he has done nothing wrong and has broken no law—"I've done nothing for Keating that I wouldn't do for any constituent." He says that if he had to do it again he would do the same thing.

Cranston's lack of judgment tells me he shouldn't wait until the voters kick his ass out of office in 1992—the man should show

(Continued on page 18)

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MURPHY'S MANOR



by Kurt Erichsen

Charting Changes

Without a doubt, Christmas Eve, 1979, was the worst holiday of my life. If I hadn't had to work, perhaps it wouldn't have been so bad. But somebody had to bring home the bacon, and God knows it wasn't going to be my lover, who was in graduate school at the time. So was I, for that matter, but his school was more difficult than mine (he claimed), and... well, you know how it goes. In the theater of love, I was born to play the fool.

Neither of us was happy about my having to wait tables that night, but of the two of us, he had the better deal by far; he had plans to party all night. I really didn't mind, for I understood his need to make the most of his brief Christmas vacation. But I did ask him to be home by midnight. Christmas was important to me, and I thought it was the least he could do under the circumstances.

While he partied, I made the best of a bad situation by celebrating with friends at the restaurant where I worked. In true holiday spirits, we bought each other round after round of Schnapps—fourteen in all—until I could hardly stand. Teetering home just before midnight with vision of sugar plums (or something sweeter) dancing in my head, I was disappointed—then enraged—to find no one a home to greet me.

It wasn't the first time my lover had broken a promise, and it wasn't his cruelest betrayal. But it was the first time he had let me down when my blood was saturated with Schnapps, and I reacted with a vengeance. Losing control, I did something completely out of character. I trashed the apartment. I broke everything I could get my hands on (that didn't cost too much or I didn't like anyway). One of the few things I spared, before passing out on the bed, was the Christmas tree. I may have been drunk, but I wasn't completely heartless.

When my lover came home hours later and realized what had happened, he punished me by cleaning up as loudly as possible and sleeping in the living room without me. We tried to make up the next day, but I was too hung over and depressed to make much of an effort. I remember only a perfunctory exchange of gifts and a listless series of calls to relatives. Then he went to a professor's house for dinner while I ate leftovers at home.

Perhaps it was fortunate that a few days later he flew to New York for a two-week visit with old friends. It gave us time to forgive one another. It also gave us a chance to mess around a little—not that either one of us had to leave town in order to screw other people. We had "an understanding," you see, even if we weren't always comfortable with it.

Like my lover, I took advantage of that understanding whenever possible. One Sunday before Christmas, for example, while my lover was studying, I rode my bike to Buena Vista Park and encountered what I described in my journal as "the fattest cock of my entire life." I gobbled it whole, rode to work, and emerged from the restaurant at midnight looking for more. On the street I met someone who took me home to fuck under the Christmas tree. When his roommate, a "tattooed

muscle stud," walked in, I fucked him too, as "I drooled in his mouth and shoved poppers up his nose."

Seedy? No, merely unrestrained. Unethical? No, my lover was doing it too, and I told him about it—I think—sooner or later. Fulfilling? That's another matter. As I wrote in my journal at the time, "Sexual escapades can be so much fun. But that's all they are. They don't mean as much as they used to when I was [younger], and thank God for that."

At the same time, however, I noted that I never wanted to take sexual escapades for granted. I remembered moments of intense, yet unfulfilled longing in the days before I moved to San Francisco, "when all I had to satisfy myself was my hand." For me—and my lover—sexual freedom was still a mark of liberation as well as fun and I never wanted to forget how oppressive, lonely and isolated life could be for gay people elsewhere.

In any case, my day at Buena Vista and night under the tree were but two of many such adventures. While my lover was in New York, I had many more. Among them were interludes with a man who fisted his lover and fucked me at the same time, a man who was so high on heroin and cocaine that he couldn't get hard, and a man who usually tricked with my lover, not me.

The most significant of these escapades was the one that took place on New Year's Eve. While my lover attended a Bette Midler concert in New York, I watched two movies and ate dinner by myself in North Beach. My only companion was an ex-flower child and jazz musician who joined me temporarily while waiting to pick up an order at the restaurant. When she left, I made a list of people I had kissed on previous New Year's Eves. It was a lousy way to spend the last day of the decade.

A chance encounter on the way home turned things around. On the Number Eight bus, feeling a little sorry for myself and growing tired of my solitude, I ran into a Castro Street regular, a "sleazy little whore with a notoriously big dick" (according to my journal), who often wore a T-shirt featuring a picture of his own erect penis.

That particular night he was wearing nothing but his leather jacket, chaps and a jockstrap (on the bus no less). Concerned for his bare ass in the cold night air, I did the neighborly thing by asking him to stop by for a drink. Unfortunately, at my apartment he was too high to be of much use. "But at least I got to play with one of the most celebrated cocks in San Francisco," I wrote, "and that was nice."

Alas, it wasn't enough, so, after ushering him out the door, I went on the prowl. Eventually, I went home with someone I had had sex with once before. To my dismay, that night we were both after the same thing, and neither of us was willing—or able?—to oblige the other. The incident left me surprisingly lonesome for my lover.

Which was fortunate, because at 5:30 a.m., he called from New York, lonesome for me as well. High, hot and horny, we masturbated over the phone, then sighed and shuddered as we came, 3,000 miles apart. "He's no ideal

lover, and neither am I," I realized. "But we have something special, and it would be a shame to jeopardize that in any way."

Six months later, we got a divorce.

And that's how I began the 1980's.

I didn't fall in love again for quite a while, and although I eventually became involved with a number of people who meant a great deal to me, I didn't call anyone else my lover until I met

my current partner over two years ago. He is nothing like the man who preceded him. The relationship we have established is equally as dissimilar from the first one.

The reasons for this have something to do with the changes in myself over the last decade. They also have to do with transformations in the world around me. Whatever the reasons, the holiday season my lover and I spend together this year will bear no resemblance to the holiday season I endured with

(and without) my ex-lover ten years ago. And thank God for it. I don't think I could survive another year's end like 1979. I may not have survived that one.

For one thing, I won't have to work on Christmas Eve. Instead, I will spend it where I have spent the last two Christmas Eves—around the dining room table and by the fireplace of my in-laws' house in the East Bay. With the extended family clan, I will eat, talk, sing carols and open

(Continued on page 18)

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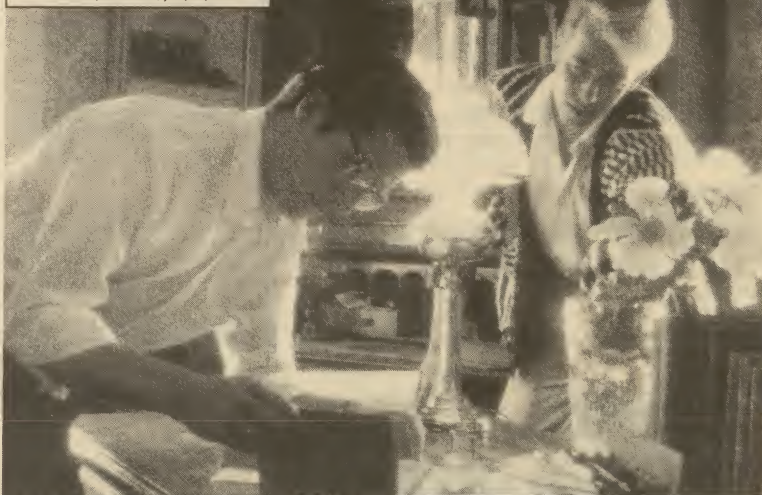
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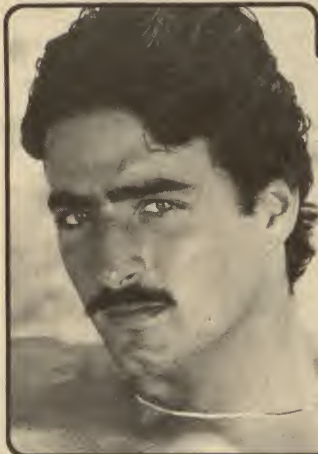
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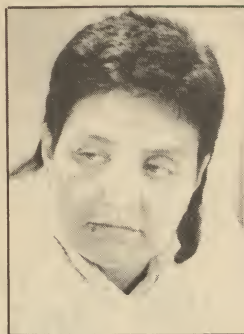
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Year Review

(Continued from page 1)



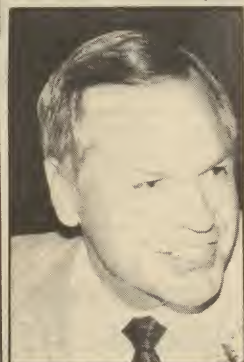
Lynn Griffis.

(Photo: Barbara Maggiani)

revealed that the claims were a hoax. Griffis left town after an embarrassed community went to her rescue, raising her as a symbol of gay and lesbian brutality.

Across the bay in Concord, AIDS discrimination became God's cause as the Rev. Lloyd Mashore, pastor of a fundamentalist church, announced he would lead the challenge to remove an AIDS discrimination ordinance passed by the City Council.

A petition drive garnered the number of signatures needed to qualify the issue for the November ballot. Mashore announced his intent to be a candidate for the Concord City Council. It represented the movement of the right-wing anti-gay politics into Northern California. When the votes were counted in November, the AIDS discrimination ordinance had been defeated, Mashore won a seat on the City



Lloyd Mashore.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

Council and a group from Orange County calling themselves the Traditional Values Coalition claimed victory.

The saga of domestic partners in San Francisco began in January with the release of one of several drafts of a proposed ordinance to validate relationships. The ordinance passed the Board of Supervisors in May, and Mayor Art Agnos signed the legislation in June.

With the signing of the ordinance, a task force was created by the mayor to research the best methods to using the ordinance to give equal health benefits to domestic partners. A key part of the mayor's directive was to look at the possibility of expanding domestic partners beyond gay relationships.

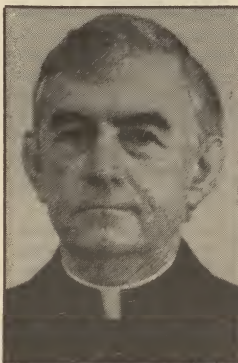
In July a fundamentalist minister and a rabbi announced a campaign to put domestic partners on the November ballot. Following a successful petition drive, the two faded in the background as the Archdiocese of San Francisco began a strong effort to keep the legislation from becoming law.

Agnos and Supervisor Britt, who introduced the legislation, promised to reintroduce the law in 1990.

1989 was also a year for anger, frustration and protests as the deaths from AIDS continued to mount. The year had barely begun when a group of protesters closed down the Golden Gate Bridge to commute traffic. The group, calling itself Stop AIDS Now or Else, promised to return. They did in September during the opening of the San Francisco Opera's 1989 season.

Yet the biggest protest of the year, and certainly one of the most important confrontations of the decade in San Francisco, took place on Oct. 6 as members of the San Francisco Police Department went out of control at an ACT UP demonstration.

The demonstration began at



Archbishop John Quinn.

(Photo: Steve Savage)

the Federal Building in the afternoon, and then moved up Market Street to the Castro. As the march entered the area the confrontation began with more than half the on duty police officers in San Francisco participating. Innocent bystanders and protesters alike became targets for police. People were told to stay locked behind doors in businesses as the police made their sweep.

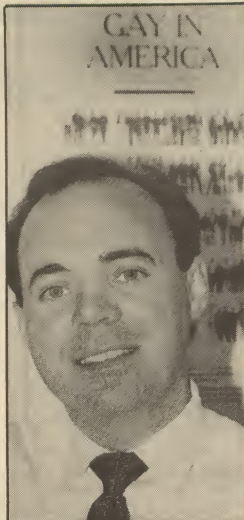
As the year ends, investigations continue as the police department finds itself the target of public and internal examination. The riots forced the disbanding of the city's tactical police unit, the resignation of a deputy police chief and the reassignment of several lower ranking officers.

The pressure on police officers increased with the naming of Gwenn Craig to the Police Commission. Craig, a former president of the Harvey Milk Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club, is a veteran of clashes between gays and the police, and she wasted no time in moving to accomplish a sense of justice for the gay community. Her appointment by Agnos represented the return of a woman, and a lesbian to the police commission.

The media became a player itself in the news of 1989 in the gay community. The *San Francisco Examiner*, with the inspiration of gay editor Greg Brock, produced almost a full month of gay related stories covering almost everything that could be classified as gay.

Following almost two decades of on and off homophobic attacks, many criticized the effort as "too little, too late." Others praised the effort, which used the resources of virtually every writer and editor at the paper.

1989 was also the year when television personality Morton Downey Jr. came to San Francisco to announce he was apologetic for any offenses to the gay community. He then invited the gay press for a dinner on a yacht in the bay. Three hours later he



Greg Brock.

(Photo: Barbara Maggiani)

would claim he had been attacked by skinheads at the San Francisco airport.

Downey's show returned to San Francisco airwaves and a few months later was dropped when nobody seemed to care.

It was also the year for Perry Stone, a radio shock-jock, to build his ratings by verbally bashing gays, people with AIDS and any other minority that he could find. He was done in by a member of the Girl Scouts whom he tried to intimidate.

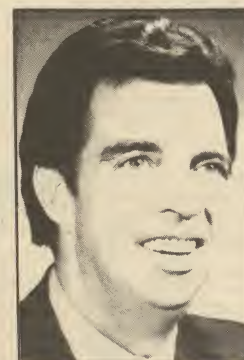


Perry Stone.

(Photo: Rink)

Fired from his morning spot on a San Jose radio station, he moved to San Francisco station KITS-FM. He also apologized and said it was just an act, promising to be good in the future.

There were an assortment of names rising to higher heights and lower lows in 1989. Harry Britt became president of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. Jean O'Leary resigned as the head of the National Gay Rights Advocates under extraordinary pressure and a cloud of unethical conduct. Jose Sarria joined with Phyllis Lyon and Del Martin to become the grand marshals of the annual Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade. Marga Gomez was voted the Cable Car Awards Entertainer of the Year. A school on Ellis Street was named



Morton Downey Jr.

for Harvey Milk. Jerry Coletti and Pat Montclair became the reigning Emperor and Empress of San Francisco.

Elizabeth Taylor came to San Francisco to raise money for AIDS. Barbara Bush hugged a person with AIDS, wrote a letter to the Names Project, and President Bush gave his first speech on AIDS the week before Christmas. Connie Francis raised more than \$3,000 for Project Open Hand at the San Francisco Eagle. Rock artists joined together to raise more than \$500,000 in the controversial "In Concert Against AIDS." The Kirov Ballet raised almost \$100,000 for AIDS organizations.

The AIDS Walk raised more than \$1 million and came under scrutiny when it was learned that the promoters get more money than most of the AIDS charity beneficiaries.

Following the earthquake, the American Red Cross raised tens of millions of dollars. A byproduct was a financial crisis at every AIDS fundraising organization in the city.



Connie Francis.
(Photo: Barbara Maggiani)

The Names Project quilt was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize. The largest display was presented in Washington, D.C., in October with Bush flying over as hundreds yelled, "Shame,



Jean O'Leary.
(Photo: Mick Hicks)

Shame, Shame" at the president.

In November the Names Project announced an agreement with the Trinity United Methodist Church to build a community center at the corner of Noe and Market streets, to be used as the home for the quilt as well as a center for PWAs and the gay community.

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav announced the establishment of the first gay Jewish cemetery in Colma.

The gay political clubs seemed to mire themselves in an extraordinary amount of infighting, much a byproduct of the gay community's position on whether San Francisco should have a new ballpark. The Stonewall Gay Democratic Club met the day after the earthquake to attempt to figure out exactly where they stood. The Harvey Milk Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club censured one of their vice presidents, Rick Hauptman, for, they claimed, attempting to tamper with the club's slate cards. The gay Republicans changed their name to the Log Cabin Club and joined other similarly named clubs across the state to garner the biggest gay political win of the year by humiliating homophobic U.S. Rep. William Dannemeyer.

And people continued to die.

AIDS Demographic Shift Seen

by Allen White

Christmas in San Francisco was a time for parties, church services and a time of family. It was also a time of caring, and nowhere was that more evident than the Christmas Eve Dinner for people with AIDS and ARC at the Green Room of the Veterans Building.

People from throughout the community joined together. Vinnie Russell, chair of the dinner committee, said that more than 250 people volunteered their time, and more than 30 organizations donated food and assistance. They were joined by dozens of entertainers from the entire sphere of gay entertainment. Together they presented a dinner for almost 1,000 people Sunday afternoon.

The entertainment lineup read like a who's who from the community. Bob Sandner played the piano. Sharon McNight sang. Danny Williams, Sandy Van and Marga Gomez were among those providing comedy.

Mikio Hirata, Solomon Rose, Aldo Bell and Irene Sondeberg were just a few of the many cabaret entertainers on the program. Members of the San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Chorus appeared.

Behind the scenes AIDS Emergency Fund leaders like Alan Selby and Zack Long coordinated the volunteers and helped serve food. Don Thompson coordinated the entertainment.

With the joy helping people

can bring, there was also the pain.

Walking through the room was a heart-wrenching experience.

"It is much harder because it is Christmas," Russell said. "We all know that many of these people will not be here next year."

In years past, these were primarily events for white, middle-class gay men. No more. Many of the volunteers were stunned, possibly emotionally unprepared, for the influx of mothers and children who are infected with HIV. Statistically, the numbers have been growing. Yet, the numbers came to life on Christmas Eve.

A black couple, both people with AIDS, rushed up to Rev. Cecil Williams as he arrived at the dinner. They are part of a growing number of people with color who are becoming visible as the numbers of people with AIDS continues to rise.

A look of shock came across one very well-meaning volunteer when several homeless people with AIDS arrived at the dinner. They had neither the funds nor the concern to dress up. They were there because they, in a very honest way, needed a meal.

As these people came together on Christmas Eve, discomfort was replaced by compassion. But many people sat enjoying the entertainment, yet somehow missing, or choosing to ignore, the many gay-related quips and remarks.

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Britt Determined To See Passage

by M. J. Murphy

Harry Britt, president of the Board of Supervisors, has been working on the domestic partners ordinance for the past nine years. He has seen the legislation weather defeats in two mayoral administrations, yet he remains determined to see the passage of what many at City Hall refer to as "Harry's Bill."

When asked about the possibility of an initiative being placed on the ballot in June, Britt agreed with attorney Matt Coles, author of the domestic partners ordinance, that it is more likely to go up for another vote in November 1990 but reiterated that as of yet, no decision had been made.

"What's happening now," Britt said, "is that the task force that the mayor appointed is close to finishing its work and that will give us a lot of information that we don't have now, which will affect the decisions that we make as to where we go from here."

"Our options are either to put some form of legislation on the ballot ourselves, or to simply pass it through the board and let the other side take the initiative."

"What I'm doing is talking to people who have been part of the history of domestic partners, and to others who have written me helpful letters."

The narrow defeat of Proposition S leaves plenty of room for speculation about why the campaign failed to come up with the winning number of votes; Britt points his finger at the city controller who wrote in the voter's pamphlet that the passage of

Prop. S could lead to a significant expenditure of city funds in the future.

"My personal sense on this is that the main thing that hurt us is the cost arguments that produced the huge negative votes in the most conservative parts of the city. That was the fault, primarily, of the controller. I think if we could change that, it would be very hard for us to lose."

"There are large parts of this city where gay people are very integrated and seen as part of the family. We won those precincts. There are other parts of the city where we are less visible and where there is more resistance to changing what they call "traditional values" and what we call homophobia. In those areas, the economic argument had more appeal. Those precincts would not have voted against gay rights, but they will vote against spending money to advance gay rights."

"It's the same argument that's used against comparable worth. Everyone says the ERA (Equal Rights Amendment) is great, but if it starts to cost money, then people look at it more closely."

"Domestic partners is very much like comparable worth in that we're not asking for toleration. We're asking for an acknowledgment that a homophobic system needs to be changed. And that's threatening to people."

Given Britt's background in the study of theology, and the Christian churches' relentless ef-



Harry Britt informs supporters of the defeat of Prop. S on election night.
(Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

forts to undermine the passage of any domestic partners legislation, the topic of organized religion often crops up in Britt's conversations about the ordinance.

"The one thing I will not do is let the Roman Catholic Church have veto power over what we do here because they are the problem, not the answer to the problem. I'm not remotely interested in watering down the legislation to appease people like that."

"That doesn't mean that we don't think (the bill) can be improved. The piece has been around for years now, and we've looked at many different strategies. I thought the one that went on the ballot was pretty good. We'll try to make it better, but not in order to try to appease bigots."

A few days after the defeat of Prop. S, San Francisco Archbishop John Quinn issued a statement that reiterated the church's support for legislation that would extend hospital visitation rights and bereavement leave to designated individuals as long as the designation of domestic partners per se was not included in the wording of the draft.

"Hospital visitation rights is not what we're about," Britt responded. "If all we get out of this thing is hospital visitation rights (and bereavement leave), then we haven't won very much."

"We would have liked to include other protections in the private sector, and the reason we didn't is because state and federal laws were an obstacle at every point. You cannot tell

private businesses that they have to have health plans for lesbian and gay partners, and you can't interfere with labor contracts in the private sector. There is a long list of things you cannot do by local law. Hospital visitation rights was one of the areas where we could, and that's why we put it in."

"Sure, there is a possibility that (the issue) may be dealt with independently, but there is not a possibility that we will settle for that."

"The only thing that offends the Roman Catholic Church is that we want our relationships to be taken seriously, and they're not willing to do that. The idea that we rewrite the legislation to please the Roman Catholic Church doesn't interest me. They want us to sign a document that says we know we're inferior and I'm not going to sign that document, and I don't think our community is either."

Britt agrees that while domestic partners legislation could easily win approval from the board of supervisors again, it is important for the community to experience a victory at the ballot box.

"If we do something different, we could just pass it by the board and let the opposition worry about the deadlines," Britt said. "At some point we want to go back on the ballot because we lost and we want to win. We could probably achieve the goals of the legislation without going back on the ballot, but in terms of interest to the movement and the perception of the gay family and its acceptance in this city, I personally think it should go back on the ballot."

When asked about the contributions and recommendations

(Continued on page 23)

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Bacon, Mozzarella or Mushroom

DESSERTS

2.75 Chocolate Cake
2.75 Cheese Cake
2.75 Pie
2.25 Fruit Plate (in season)

BEVERAGES

1.00 Spinelli Coffee or Tea
1.50 Espresso or Hot Cocoa
1.00 Milk
1.50 Iced Drinks

APPETIZERS

Avocado Vinaigrette
Mussels Marinara
Shrimp Cocktail
Stuffed Shrimp

SOUPS

Soup du jour
French Onion Soup

SALADS

Garden Salad
Caesar Salad
Chef's Salad

PASTA

Linguini Marinara
Tortellini Alfredo
Linguini with Chicken in a Cream Sauce

POULTRY

Chicken in a Basket
Chicken Parmigiana
Blackened Chicken
Chicken Teriyaki
Half Braided Chicken

MEAT

Calves Liver w/Onion and Bacon
Pork Chops
Lamb Chops
New York Strip Steak
Prime Rib

SEAFOOD

5.50 3.00 Brailed Filet of Sale
6.50 3.50 Stuffed w/Crabmeat
6.50 6.00 Brailed Swardfish
6.75 7.00 Blackened Swardfish
8.75 Brailed Scallops
9.75 Shrimp Scampi
9.95 2.75 Stuffed Shrimp

SANDWICHES

3.75 BLT w/Cottage Fries
4.75 Chicken Breast w/Cottage Fries
5.75 2.50 Hamburger w/Cottage Fries
.75 2.75 Each Additional Item
4.50 Swiss, American, Cheddar
Bacon, Mozzarella or Mushroom

OMELETS

4.00 5.50 Three Egg Omelet w/Cottage Fries
.75 5.00 Each Additional Item
Swiss, American, Cheddar
Bacon, Mozzarella or Mushroom

DESSERTS

3.00 5.75 Chocolate Cake
3.00 5.75 Cheese Cake
3.00 6.00 Pie
2.50 Fruit Plate (in season)

BEVERAGES

1.00 6.50 Coffee or Tea
1.50 7.50 Espresso or Hot Cocoa
1.00 9.95 Milk
1.50 9.95 Iced Drinks

Entrees, except Pasta, served with Vegetable du jour and choice of Potato, Cottage Fries or Rice

HAPPINES



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Helms Out on a Limb On Hate Crimes Act

by Cliff O'Neill

The newspaper ad was, in no uncertain terms, less than flattering. In big letters superimposed over a photograph of a crime scene, it read: "Why Is Senator Helms Soft on Crime?"

Helms was not amused.

The full-page advertisement, placed in two prominent North Carolina newspapers and one Capitol Hill weekly this past fall, accused Jesse Helms, the fire and brimstone conservative from the Tar Heel State and the self-appointed guardian of the public morality, of condoning certain types of crime and of tolerating hatred.

At issue was, and continues to be, the Hate Crimes Statistics Act (S. 419/H.R. 1048), a bill that would order the U.S. Department of Justice to collect statistics on crimes motivated by bias based on race, religion, ethnicity or sexual orientation. Although the bill passed the House this past summer with overwhelming bipartisan support, in the Senate, where the bill passed through its requisite committees months before the House even got to it, action has come to a standstill. Why?

Helms doesn't like it.

And that's just what the ads said. Paid for by the liberal organization, People for the American Way, the attack spots were intended to discredit Helms on

his home turf just as his 1990 reelection race was getting under way.

Also, they were intended to break a roadblock Helms had placed on the bill.

Although the bill has been awaiting floor time for several months, Helms had managed to stop the bill by refusing to consent to a time agreement with Sen. Paul Simon (D-IL), the bill's lead sponsor.

Without such an agreement, the bill's supporters had feared that Helms would filibuster the bill. It takes 60 senators to sign a cloture petition to break a filibuster, so it seemed that a Helms filibuster would kill the bill.

First Helms blamed the ads on the "homosexual lobby." Then according to the *Raleigh News and Observer*, Helms used them in his fundraising materials.

Copies of the ads were sent out by certified mail with no return address (making recipients open the envelope to find out what it was) and no discussion of the hate crimes issue.

"These left-wing radicals despise the traditional values Jesse holds dear," the letter read. "The next smear could hit any day!" Helms' 1990 race, the letter said, "could be won or lost in the next few weeks depending on wheth-



Reactionary Sen. Jesse Helms (R-N.C.)

er or not we can stand up to their beat-Helms blitz."

Signed by Helms campaign finance co-chairman Bill Bennett, an earlier conventional mail letter accompanied by a pink "Financial Crisis Notice" said, "Right now, Jesse's hands are tied fighting Ted Kennedy in the Senate. I'll be living on a diet of fingernails until I hear from you."

Bowing to the resulting bad publicity over the ads, Helms then said he would be happy to submit to a time agreement on the bill. But on his terms.

Helms has planned to introduce an amendment to the bill which would declare the "homosexual political movement" a threat to the family; put the Senate on record as being against any future gay and lesbian rights bill; encourage the enforcement of state sodomy laws; and ban gay-positive materials in public schools.

Action on the bill is expected soon after Congress returns in late January.

AIDS Epidemic Follows Erratic Global Pattern

by Rex Wockner

New figures released this week by the Switzerland-based World Health Organization reveal more clearly than ever that the AIDS epidemic is following vastly differing patterns as it circles the globe.

A total of 186,803 AIDS cases have been reported to WHO's Global Programme on AIDS as of Nov. 1, 1989, a figure that WHO officials believe represents about one-third of actual cases.

The disease has now been seen in 177 countries or territories, leaving only 25 nations yet to report their first case.

The Americas have 70 percent of the world's AIDS cases and 85 percent of those have occurred in the United States. The United States is followed by Brazil (7,787 cases), Canada (2,867), Mexico (2,351), Haiti (2,041), and the Dominican Republic (856).

Other American nations with at least 100 cases are Argentina, the Bahamas, Bermuda, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, French Guiana, Guadeloupe, Honduras, Peru, Trinidad, Tobago and Venezuela.

In North America, only about five percent of AIDS cases have been traced to heterosexual sex, but in some Caribbean nations that figure is now approaching 50 percent.

In Africa, 32,062 AIDS cases have been reported from 48 nations. Countries with more than 1000 cases are Burundi, Congo, Kenya, Malawi, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

In some major areas of sub-Saharan Africa, up to 30 percent of sexually active adults between ages 20 and 40 are believed to be HIV-antibody-positive, primarily as a result of heterosexual sex. The incidence of AIDS in North Africa, however, remains very low.

In Europe, 25,905 cases have been reported. France leads with 7,149 cases, followed by Italy (4,158), West Germany (3,872), Spain (3,386), the United Kingdom (2,649), Switzerland (996), the Netherlands (983), Belgium (519), Denmark (470), and Sweden (340).

Eastern Europe has so far remained relatively untouched by the epidemic. But both health experts and East bloc officials believe the recent opening of Iron Curtain borders could lead to an increased incidence of AIDS in this area.

Asia and Oceania are least affected by AIDS with 2,122 cases reported by a total of 32 countries. Australia has seen the bulk of the cases (1,489), followed by New Zealand (144) and Japan (108).

National Briefs

Gays Defeat Christians in Illinois School

A suburban Chicago high school board has passed discrimination protections for gay and lesbian students following a seven-month fight with fundamentalist Christians. The Oak Park-River Forest High School Board voted unanimously Dec. 13 to add the phrase "sexual orientation" to its Human Dignity and Diversity policy. Christians had faced off against a coalition of school groups, church leaders, government officials and community activists in opposing the gay protections. The Christians blanketed the city with anti-gay leaflets and took out large ads in newspapers, charging the board with endorsing homosexuality and opening the door for gay proms, gay curricula and gay awareness month. They also said the policy would encourage students to turn gay and bring homosexual teachers to the district. Oak Park has a large lesbian and gay population and passed a city gay rights law earlier this year. Both Robert Bray, spokesman for the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force, and New York City gay youth activist Andy Humm said the protection may be the first in the nation.

—Rex Wockner

Gay Journalists Lose Marriage Appeal

Two Chicago gay journalists who unsuccessfully tried to obtain a marriage license have lost their appeal to the Illinois Human Relations Commission. Paul Varnell and Rex Wockner filed a complaint with the state Department of Human Rights last spring after Wockner was encouraged to do so by bureaucrats he was interviewing regarding Chicago's new Human Rights Ordinance. In rejecting the appeal, the commission said the state Human Rights Act, which outlaws discrimination based on gender, was not meant to overturn the state marriage act, which specifies that marriage partners must be of opposite sexes. Wockner and Varnell had claimed discrimination based on their sex, arguing that had either of them been a woman, the license would have been issued. Wockner and Varnell, who are not lovers, say they will not appeal their case into courts because they believe a "committed couple" should pursue the issue. They also said it had complicated their lives as journalists to simultaneously be newsmakers.

Gay Vies for New Orleans Council Seat

The French Quarter and surrounding area could elect Louisiana's first openly gay politician in early 1990 if longtime activist and businessman Larry Bagneris is successful in his election bid for a New Orleans City Council district seat. A victory would be particularly sweet for gay activists who felt betrayed when incumbent Mike Early voted against a 1986 gay civil rights ordinance, citing his concern that gay waiters might transmit the AIDS virus to customers. Early is not seeking re-election. Bagneris, a New Orleans native, has been active in gay politics nationally as well as locally in Houston, his one-time residence. In 1980 he was the first openly gay delegate from Texas to be elected to the National Democratic Convention. He is a former board member of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force and of the Gay Rights National Lobby.



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New Year's Eve

appetizer

Smoked Salmon Pate
with grilled baby leeks and red salmon roe

or

Baked Almond Crusted
Goat Cheese
with spiced apples

soup

Consommé
with herbs and dumplings

or

salad

Mixed Greens
with english cucumbers and celery root

entrées

Filet of Beef
grilled and served with horseradish sauce
and roasted garlic and potato gratin

Ahi Tuna
panfried and sauced with zinfandel, shallots
and basil

Rack of Lamb
sauteed and sauced with port wine and
thyme

Muscovy Duck
skinless breast filet and leg grilled and
sauced with watercress and pears

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Top 5

(Continued from page 1)

dealings with a savings and loan operator.

And in the tradition of scandal being the chief motivator of the public attention in 1989, one of our own, openly gay U.S. Rep. Barney Frank (D-Mass.) found himself caught in the downpour of bad press that accompanied all the 1989 congressional scandals.

Still, aside from that, it would appear from a broad overview that nothing much really happened on the federal level where AIDS and gay and lesbian issues were concerned.

But appearances can be deceiving.

Barney Frank Scandal

No subject throughout the year in the gay and lesbian community seemed to draw as much attention in 1989 as did the revelations, first issued in late August by the conservative *Washington Times*, that Barney Frank had employed a male prostitute as a personal aide after initially paying him for sex.

While the right-wing newspaper made no secret about its expectations of the tough-talking, liberal standard bearer in its reports, a month after the revelations were made, even some of his supporters began to doubt he would survive the deluge.

But while a handful of Frank supporters—most notably the *Boston Globe*—called on Frank to resign and spare himself and his party continued bad publicity, the leaders of the gay and lesbian movement virtually unanimously supported the cigar-smoking congressman.

And in the wake of the scandal which now promises to continue through into 1990, up from the headlines came a new celebrity destined to rank alongside the Jessica Hahns and Donna Rices of history: male prostitute and pimp Steven Gobie.

The man who would be the "Mayflower Madame," who describes himself as a heterosexual, has since invoked the Fifth Amendment in testimony before the House Ethics Committee investigating the fracas and has sold his tale to *Penthouse* magazine, where it is said he will name up to four other Congressmen in his tales.

Pro-Gay Report

In investigating another of what had become a series of legal challenges to the military's policy of excluding lesbians and gay men from the military, staffers at the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund came across the "smoking gun." Armed with it—the cover page of an undisclosed Pentagon report on homosexuality and the military—they employed the aid of openly gay U.S. Rep. Gerry Studds (D-Mass.) to uncover the complete document.

For months, the Pentagon balked. And even after it became public, the report was so politically "hot" they still would not make it available.

The paper, a Department of Defense-commissioned study into homosexuality and security risks, was actually never officially released, but rather leaked to Studds' office by an anonymous DoD source.

Once it was made public, however, the report, "Nonconforming Sexual Orientations and

Military Suitability," and the DoD memos rebuking it, shook the Pentagon to its combat boots, calling homosexuality no more relevant to security risks than "left-handedness." As could be predicted, the Pentagon had no comment.

In the movement to have the military rescind its exclusionary policy—a movement that had wins and losses in 1989—the report underscored the fact that, short of congressional passage of a federal gay and lesbian rights bill, the reversal of the policy would be the most dramatic affirmation of gay and lesbian rights on a federal level on the horizon.

AIDS Policies Revamped

In the war against AIDS, in 1989, one fact remained clear: nothing is ever final. But despite that caution, 1989 marked an unprecedented level of dialogue between AIDS activists and the government's AIDS bureaucrats.

Led by a handful of well-versed AIDS activists, most notably from ACT UP New York and San Francisco's Project Inform, in 1989 the AIDS community finally got a seat at the table, or at least moved closer to it.



Barney Frank.

After dramatic indoor demonstrations and eloquent testimony at key Food and Drug Administration committee meetings, AIDS activists made notable inroads into the nation's Public Health Service.

In 1989 they helped secure final FDA approval of ganciclovir, a previously stymied AIDS-blindness drug; achieved preliminary approval of a "parallel track" drug distribution system, allowing promising drugs to be more widely accessi-

ble to AIDS and HIV patients who would not otherwise qualify for standard clinical drug trials; and enlisted the support of the government's top AIDS researcher Dr. Anthony Fauci, among other victories.

While there continues to be confrontations with the leaders of the federal health agencies in suburban Maryland, which are now all without appointed heads, 1989 marked breakthroughs in cooperation previously thought impossible.

Art Censorship Debate

When a small tour of photographs by critically acclaimed gay photographer Robert Mapplethorpe began a nationwide tour in early 1989, few could have imagined the firestorm that would ensue.

But a firestorm it was. Triggered by cries of "pornography" and "blasphemy" from the right and countered by calls of "censorship" and "politics" on the left, the debate led to a daily escalation of the fight in Congress and in the streets.

What started with the cancellation of the Mapplethorpe display by Washington's Corcoran Gallery of Art, ended with the

discrediting of the museum by the arts community, a series of demonstrations, the withdrawal of a major bequest and the December resignation of the gallery's director.

And what began with constituent letters to congressional conservatives about a photograph of a cross immersed in a jar of urine and selected homoerotic and sadomasochistic images in the Mapplethorpe tour being partially financed with federal dollars, led to amendment after amendment—most sponsored by Sen. Jesse Helms (R-N.C.)—limiting the use of tax dollars by the National Endowment for the Arts.

Even after the byzantine congressional process resulted in a heavily neutralized Helms amendment being passed into law, its "chilling effect" brought about a two-week fracas involving the withdrawal and subsequent re-approval of an NEA grant for a New York AIDS show.

Conservatives are expected to wield the controversial arts-funding issue again in 1990, as the November elections approach, and take the House and Senate floors to discuss the merits of urine as an art form.

(Continued on page 19)



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Denni Barton

March 27, 1951-Nov. 21, 1989

Denni unexpectedly passed away in the early morning hours of Nov. 21 in Auckland, New Zealand, succumbing to his first bout of pneumocystis pneumonia. He was diagnosed with ARC in January of this year but had not developed any AIDS related illnesses prior to his departure for New Zealand on Nov. 16, 1989.

Traveling to New Zealand and Australia had been a dream of Denni's for several years. Accompanying him on the trip was his loving partner of eight years, Mel Ward and his mother, Gel Barton. Having along the two people Denni loved the most deeply helped provide him with comfort and peace at the time of his passing.

Dennis was born in Long Beach and was very proud to call himself a "native Californian." He moved to San Francisco



in 1979 from Southern California after a year and a half stay in New Orleans (his second favorite city after S.F.). He worked for PMI Mortgage Insurance for the last eight years as a field auditor.

In addition to his loving partner and mother, Denni is survived by his sister and brother-in-law, his nephew, aunts, uncles and cousins from Southern California, Oregon and Ohio. Denni also leaves behind many loving friends.

A memorial service was held in Newport Beach on Nov. 28. Contributions in Denni's memory may be made to your favorite AIDS charity.

Denni will always be remembered for his love of life and outgoing personality. He possessed an unusual ability to understand a person's feelings and a sensitivity and intelligence to be able to communicate with anyone. His terrific sense of humor brought a smile and laugh to many.

Chelsea, Topper and I miss you and your gentle smile. You were my partner, my best friend and truly the "wind beneath my wings." Until later.
—Love, Mel.

Gene Bates

April 28, 1946-Dec. 17, 1989

Gene died peacefully at his home on Sunday afternoon, Dec. 17. His friends and loved ones were at his side. Gene had lived with AIDS for the past 2½ years.

A native of Texas, Gene lived in San Francisco for the past 20 years. A graduate of the University of Texas and Stanford Law School, he was a former partner with the law firm of Farella, Braun & Martez. He retired in 1988 as a corporate attorney for Rolm Inc.

He is survived by his parents, sister and brother of Texas; and his good friends in California.

He will be terribly missed by all who loved him.



Charles Pierce Rembert

Jan. 30, 1933-Dec. 7, 1989

Charles passed away peacefully at home from HIV-related encephalitis after a brief illness. He is survived by his partner of 17 years, Terry Stratton, his father, Clyde Rembert Sr. of Dallas, Texas, his brother, Clyde Rembert Jr., and his family, and his sister, Betty Brown, and her family also of Dallas.

Charles was loved dearly by his family and his many friends. The funeral took place in Dallas on Dec. 12 and Charles was laid to rest on the family plot near his mother who was also very special to him.

Charles was born in Dallas. He graduated from Southern Methodist University. He twice lived in New York City where he worked in advertising for HR Television. But Charles' first love was San Francisco where he spent the last 18 years of his life. From 1980 to 1985 Charles worked at Western International Media as vice president of sales.

Charles had a wonderful ability to grow orchids and other flowers. He had a happy outgoing personality and was known by many for driving around in his 1940 Buick, which he had carefully restored.

Charles will long be remembered for his love of life, and the joy and beauty he brought to the people around him.

Ned Bynner

Ned Bynner, a quiet but assertive and friendly man who was well known in the Castro before leaving San Francisco in 1986, died on Nov. 17 in Scotts Valley.

With him when he quietly departed were his beloved companion, Michael Vernon, and his sister, Betty Lisk of Ohio. A number of friends from San Francisco, in-



cluding his special friend Neil who migrated from Washington, D.C., with him over a decade ago, visited him and Mike in the weeks preceding Ned's demise. All observed that Ned's wit and sharpness of mind remained with him to the end.

Ned's last wish was granted when he was able to leave the hospital and pass his final days in the loving environment of the home he shared with Michael and the "family" cat, dog and birds.

Contributions in his name would be welcomed by the Hospice Caring Project, P.O. Box 670, Aptos, Calif., 95001 or the Santa Cruz AIDS Project, 1606 Soquel Ave. in Santa Cruz.

Ned's spirit will survive in the hearts and memories of his friends and family and in the living memorials that will be planted in his name both in Santa Cruz and in Golden Gate Park.

Mark Edwin Wilde

June 21, 1955-Dec. 16, 1989

Former San Francisco resident Mark Wilde, 34, died of AIDS complications on Dec. 16 at his Diamond Bar home in Southern California.

A memorial service was held Dec. 27 in the Church of Our Heritage at Forest Lawn, Covina Hills, and his ashes will be scattered at Yosemite National Park in the spring.

Survivors include his lover, Jerry Downing of San Francisco, mother Jacquelyn Wilde and sisters JoAnn and Sheryl Wilde, all of Diamond Bar; sister Bonilyn Staggs of San Dimas, Calif., and brothers Roy Wilde of Los Angeles and Ronald Wilde of New York City.

Donations in his memory to the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, AIDS Project Los Angeles or AIDS Assistance Fund in San Diego would be appreciated.

Born in New Haven, Conn., Wilde grew up in West Covina and attended South Hills High School in Covina before mov-



ing to Hollywood for his senior year and graduation from Hollywood High School. He studied marine biology at Citrus College in Azusa for two years and received their Key of Knowledge Award as an outstanding scholar in 1982.

After further marine classes at UC-Santa Barbara, he made his home in several California cities as well as New York, with time out for a trip around the world on the Concorde.

While living in San Diego, he worked as a bartender at S.R.O. Lounge and, during a period of residence in Hollywood, also worked at bars and owned a catering business, Food For Thought.

Before being diagnosed in August 1988 and returning to Diamond Bar to be near his family, Wilde lived in San Francisco and tended bar at Badlands.

A gourmet cook who loved to prepare elaborate meals, especially Oriental dishes, he also had a lifelong interest in sketching and painting in watercolors.

William R. Vitiello

William R. Vitiello, Ph.D., LCSW, died of AIDS related complications on Dec. 6.

He passed from this life leaving a message of love and peace to his family, friends, lovers, colleagues and clients.

William spent his professional life working cross culturally as a psychotherapist and administered mental health programs for the disadvantaged.

He felt his finest professional achievements to be the year he spent on the Thai/Cambodian border directing international relief programs for refugees and the AIDS mental health services he provided to our community.

He gently touched the lives of many and leaves us with a message that he will be working even harder on the other side for the benefit of all of us still bound to our beautiful planet.

Private burial at sea is planned.



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DOMESTIC RATES

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY/STATE/ZIP

Friday

(Continued from page 10)

some sense of decency and resign now.

Two local Republicans tell me they received one of those keepsake Christmas cards from Dan and Marilyn Quayle with the word "beacon" misspelled before the mistake was caught ("May our nation continue to be a beacon of hope to the world"). Some 10,000 were sent before the correction.

Mayor Art Agnos got rave reviews for his performance after the October earthquake, but critics will have to wait months before reviewing his big-screen debut. The mayor played himself recently in a scene in Gene Hackman's *Class Action*.

California Democratic Party chair Jerry Brown recently appointed S.F. County Chair Carole



Jerry Brown.

Migden to a seven-member state panel that will develop a 1990 platform of the state Democratic Party position. In addition to her prominence in local and state pol-

Hippler

(Continued from page 11)

gifts—but I will not drink Schnapps. I couldn't even if I tried. It doesn't mix with AZT.

The next morning my lover and I will open our gifts—not smash them—under the tree. We will not fight, for there will be nothing to fight about. We will not look forward to time apart, because we spend enough time apart already. Neither will we have sex with other people, for reasons that are too involved and—believe it or not—too private to discuss here.

New Year's Eve will be equally as quiet as Christmas. We may eat dinner with friends, but we won't be partying all night. We hardly ever dance, and we never do drugs. (I gave them up years ago; and he never started.) The

next day, we may drive up the coast, or we may see a movie. We may simply stay home and pack for a trip to Mexico.

If this sounds a bit too domestic, well, what the hell. People change. So do the times. It would be nice to understand the pattern of those changes in order to benefit from experience. But as much as I enjoy examining the past and observing the present, the connection between the two remains a mystery to me. Fortunately, this does not bother me. I do not require enlightenment. It is enough simply to chart life's ebb and flow, enjoying the changes when possible, bemoaning them when not.

Consequently, I am hardly the person to explain the significance of things, for explanations, I find, are invariably inadequate. I do not know why I loved one lover and then another. I do not

itics, Migden is one of only 20 California members of the Democratic National Committee.

To be announced soon in the Bay Area: The stars will come out for "Heart Strings: The National Tour," a musical performance with Sandy Duncan, Christopher Reeve, Jason Bateman, Judith Light, Katherine Helmond, Lucie Arnaz, Lawrence Luckinbill, Lynn Redgrave and John Clark. It opens at Los Angeles' Wilshire Theatre on Jan. 20 and will tour 30 American cities in the next six months. Billed as "an evening of hope for the healing of AIDS," the show's aim is to raise \$4 million to help with the AIDS crisis. The honorary chairs of the tour are Elizabeth Taylor and former President and Mrs. Jimmy Carter.

Happy New Year, everyone.

know why certain things were possible, perhaps inevitable, in 1979 and unthinkable in 1989. I do not know what the past decade meant, either to me personally, to the gay community of which I am a part, or to society at large.

Let others attempt to create order out of chaos by imposing patterns in an attempt to understand their fractured, disoriented lives. Let other reduce history into convenient but oversimplified categories, make artificial distinctions between one decade and the next, and mark each decade's highlights. All I can do is to compare two particular moments in time, moments which illustrate, for better or worse, my confused but sincere efforts to make the most of life.

And that's how I am beginning the 1990's.

FDA OKs Test of Marijuana For Use in HIV Chemotherapy

by Michael C. Botkin

A test of the usefulness of marijuana cigarettes in the treatment of side effects from HIV chemotherapies has been approved, for the first time, by the Food and Drug Administration.

"Steve," a 33-year-old Texan, will soon receive government produced prescription marijuana if the Drug Enforcement Agency also approves the test.

"Synthetic THC [the active ingredient in marijuana] has been approved for a couple of years, in the form of marinol, for the treatment of nausea caused by chemo- and radiation-therapy, and also for the treatment of glaucoma," said Mark Roh, AIDS coordinator of the San Francisco office of the FDA. "Once a drug is approved for any indication, a physician can prescribe it for anything."

However, it appears that marinol is much weaker than common commercial-grade marijuana cigarettes and may not be strong enough.

Because marijuana is a Schedule 1 controlled substance, the Drug Enforcement Agency must also approve its use in this trial.

"I have recommended marinol to several PWAs and their doctors as a treatment for nausea," said Roh. "Several of them got it, but the only one I heard back from stopped using it because it didn't work as well as [smoked] marijuana. I know some PWAs who continue to smoke it and receive a much higher benefit—marinol is much weaker [than smoked marijuana]," said Roh.

The FDA has approved a one-individual study of the use of smoked marijuana. The patient will be closely monitored by a physician to chart the effectiveness of the treatment.

However, because marijuana is a Schedule 1 controlled substance, the Drug Enforcement Agency must also approve its use in this trial.

"Schedule 1 means that there's a high potential for abuse, no currently accepted medical use in the U.S., and no established safety criteria," a representative of the DEA told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

The DEA had no comment as to whether they were likely to approve the Texas marijuana trial.

Although THC's nauseating effects are well known, medical personnel are often reluctant to prescribe it because of its associations with "street drugs."



"If you admit to any history of recreational drug use, the nurses won't want to give you marinol or any of the heavy-duty pain killers, for that matter," said a health care provider who preferred to remain anonymous. "They'll be wondering if you really need it, or if you just want to feel good."

Marijuana, as opposed to readily available marinol, has so far been approved for use in only a very small number of cases, typically people with cancer, glaucoma or multiple sclerosis.

Free Cab Rides On New Year's Eve

Mayor Art Agnos had proclaimed Dec. 11-17 National Drunk and Drugged Driving Awareness Week in San Francisco.

He also kicked off the 1989 HomeCab Program that will provide free taxi service to partygoers on New Year's weekend, Dec. 29, 30 and 31.

On that weekend, from 7 p.m.-3 a.m., HomeCab will provide free rides home from any restaurant or bar for patrons who have had too much to drink. The HomeCab number is 666-3000.

The mayor noted that new state legislation lowering the acceptable blood alcohol level for drivers from 0.1 .08 goes into effect at one minute after midnight Jan. 31.

Primary underwriter for the HomeCab program is St. Mary's Hospital and Medical Center, Chemical Dependency Recovery Center. Other sponsors include 560 KSFO/KYA, KTVU Channel 2, Mayor Agnos' Driving Under the Influence Project, Home Safely San Francisco, Mark Hopkins Inter-Continental Hotel, California Beverage Company and San Francisco Taxicab Association. ▼

Top 5

(Continued from page 17)

Helms Tactics Quietly Win

What would a year-end recap of gay/lesbian and AIDS news in the year be without a nod being given to Sen. Jesse Helms (R-N.C.) and his anti-gay efforts? This year, unlike those just past, Helms' efforts have been less visible (with the noted exception of the arts issue), but have been more successful.

A synopsis of the 1989 efforts of man deemed by some as "The Prince of Darkness" underscores this.

In 1989, Helms:

- successfully blocked approval of additional funds to an AIDS drug distribution plan in March;
- blocked approval of a long-term authorization of the same drug funding program in November.
- helped attach an ineffectual, yet controversial amendment to Americans with Disabilities Act listing "homosexuality and bisexuality" alongside a list of "sexual and drug-related disorders" exempt from the bill's anti-discrimination protections;
- helped add a rider to the D.C. code exempting religious educational institutions from its gay and lesbian rights law;
- blocked the much-awaited Hate Crimes Statistics Act from floor action, despite lopsided passage of the bill in the House;
- effectively banned federal funds from being used for clean needle distribution programs and tried (unsuccessfully) to ban bleach programs as well.
- condemned approval of a Lesbian/Gay Pride postmark;
- threatened to undermine efforts to revamp changes in AIDS and HIV infected immigrants and visitors to the border; and was the leader of a small minority opposing AIDS anti-discrimination language in the ADA. ▼

News you need to know. Only in the Bay Area Reporter.

Fighting AIDS with both hands tied behind my back.



Arrested: 78, including the executive directors, program heads, and board presidents of America's major AIDS service organizations, representing 30 cities, on World AIDS Day, December 1, 1989. **Action:** Demonstrate our anger and grief in front of the White House. **Charge:** blocking traffic. **Fine:** Fighting AIDS with our hands tied by federal budget cuts, public indifference, and profiteering pharmaceutical companies.

Arrested: Federal response to AIDS in the first decade of the epidemic. **Action:** On World AIDS Day the President declared the crisis over. **Charge:** Criminal Negligence. **Fine:** 61,000 AIDS Deaths = one new AIDS death every half hour and accelerating daily = an impoverished health care system for all.

New Year Resolution: Don't Agonize - Mobilize.

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Felony Charges Dropped Against PWA

by Michael C. Botkin

Chadrick Elliot, who was jailed after being charged with three counts of inflicting injury on police officers as well as attacking a Muni bus driver and resisting arrest, has been cleared of all charges except for that involving the bus driver.

Elliot was arrested on Oct. 12 following a dispute with a Muni driver. Nine police officers were required to subdue him, and a witness of the arrest called Community United Against Violence to report what she felt was an "unfair attack and beating."

Elliot claimed that he was harassed and denied access to AZT while being held in jail.

This was quite a victory for us," said Sara Jane Crosby, Elliot's public defender. "All of

the felony charges except one were dropped," she said.

At the same preliminary hearing where the charges were dropped, held Dec. 13, Elliot's bail was substantially reduced, from \$50,000 to \$5,000.

I believe that Elliot has already bailed out," Crosby said.

The dropping of "inflicting injury to a police officer" charges may reflect concerns that they would boomerang against the SFPD, already considered heavily-handed by many, particularly where the gay and lesbian community is concerned.

Elliot, who said he was considering filing complaints against the police and sheriff's departments, has not done so to date.



One of the victims of the Oct. 6 police action in the Castro.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

Oct. 6 Justice Project to Help In Filing Claims Against City

by Cindy Bologna

In response to the San Francisco police action in the Castro on Oct. 6, a program entitled the *October 6th Justice Project* has been formed to help people file damage claims against the city.

One of the group's founders, Brian Bringardner, was a participant in the ACT UP demonstration that led to the police department's action that evening.

"I literally was held captive in the Patio restaurant for a half hour, while police threatened to arrest anyone who came outside," said Bringardner. "People were not allowed to leave or enter their own homes. I couldn't believe this was happening."

Bringardner and three other concerned citizens met soon after the incident and formed the Justice Project.

"This project is not just for people who were arrested or abused by the police," said Bringardner. "Anyone who was present in the Castro on Oct. 6 and was denied his or her civil rights, can send in a claim against the City and County of San Francisco. And we hope that

many people will."

To date, only about 20 people have called the Project to receive forms.

"We've been handing them out at ACT UP meetings and on the corner of 18th and Castro as well," said Bringardner. "But we know a lot more people could become involved by making a claim against the city."

The goal of the Project is to let city officials know that the incidents of harassment and abuse that occurred will not be tolerated.

"If enough people file claims, the city would take the police action much more seriously," said Bringardner. "It will also help people seek legal redress for the occurrences that evening."

People have a six-month time limit from the day of the incident to file a claim. Bringardner says he is surprised more people have not done so yet.

"One person's response to me was 'Oh, that kind of thing happens all the time,'" said Bringardner. "Well, it doesn't happen all the time. People are

not hit over the head with police batons like they were that night."


Attorneys have become involved with the group, and Dennis Cunningham, a criminal lawyer, helped draft the claim form being used by the Justice Project, according to Bringardner.

"I went to City Hall to ask for forms, and was told they ran out. So we drafted our own," said Bringardner. "I think it says a lot that the city has run out of claim forms. A lot of people must be having their rights violated."

The city has 45 days to respond to a claim once one has been filed. If the claim is denied or has not been responded to in 45 days, the claimant can then file a lawsuit against the city.

"I hope that if enough people file claims, the city will know we mean business," said Bringardner.

Claim forms and an information sheet may be obtained by calling 367-3006. For further information about the Project, call Dennis Cunningham at 641-7580.



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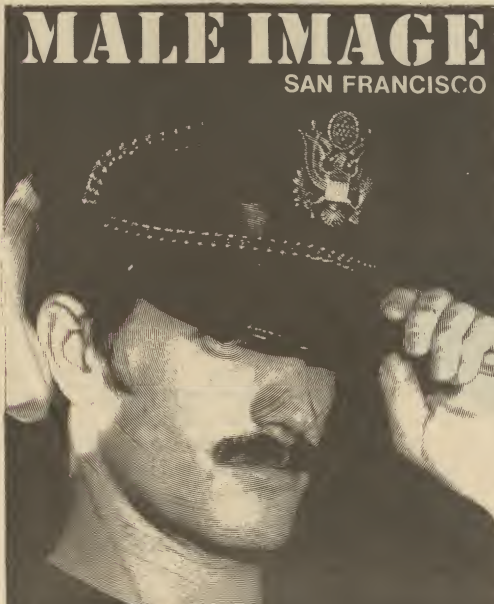
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PWA

(Continued from page 3)

same building, you are only eligible for a grant through the Individual & Family Grant Program (IFG)," said Michael Yaki, an aide to U.S. Rep. Nancy Pelosi, who has been working steadily on earthquake relief assistance since the Oct. 17 quake hit.

"The state severely underestimated the amount of staff needed to process applications," said Yaki. "I have screamed about it to people at the disaster relief office, intolerable situation."

When Romero kept getting little response from FEMA, he reportedly went to the Red Cross for help.

"All they wanted to know at the Red Cross was why I had waited seven weeks before coming to them," Romero said. "I explained that I had been promised money from FEMA, which I never received. I was in an office surrounded by people who were complaining that they hadn't been getting services either."

Romero says that he is frustrated with the waiting period and the lack of response to his situation.

"I don't see why, after more than two months since my apart-

ment was damaged, I am still waiting for the relief I am entitled to," Romero said. "I'm very upset and angry."

Romero says he is suspicious that the delay could be because he is gay and a PWA.

"When I explained to the people at FEMA that I had AIDS, their reply was 'Who gives a shit?'" Romero said.

Phone calls to FEMA and the Red Cross had not been returned by press time.

Yaki responded to Romero's suspicions of discrimination.

"Once an application form is submitted, there is no way to systematically identify a class of people," Yaki said. "Many people are still waiting for relief."

Yaki explained that when FEMA receives an application for funds, a quick evaluation is made, and the application is then passed on to the state IFG program.

"FEMA is not necessarily to blame," Yaki said. "State processors have gummed it up."

Romero reportedly still has not gotten word from FEMA, IFG or the Red Cross as to when he may be expecting assistance.

Britt

(Continued from page 14)

from other parts of the community, Britt praised the Mayor's Task Force on Family Policy headed by attorney Roberta Achtenberg and said, "We're learning from Roberta's task force all the time."

"All I'm doing at this point is getting information from people," Britt said when questioned about the extended family bill drafted by NGRA attorneys Leonard Graff and Cynthia Goldstein that met with Mayor Agnos' approval last spring.

"That's old information. They made an important contribution and we took it very seriously and we still do. They're all credible people and we're friends and we worked together."

Britt said that decisions to make additions to the domestic partners ordinance had not been made.

"The city is looking at lots of different forms of the family, but I am not willing to do anything that's watering this thing down. Anything that I put on the ballot will be there because it's the best legislation we can write, not because it will pick up some votes from the bigots!"

BAY AREA REPORTER GREATER BAY NEWS

NLRB, Union Assistance Requested

Unfair Labor Practices Alleged At AIDS Project-East Bay

by Dennis Conkin

Workers at the AIDS Project of the East Bay have filed for protection through the National Labor Relations Board and appointed a union to represent them after weeks of turmoil at the troubled agency.

The actions follow the terminations earlier this month of one worker, the suspensions of two others and the forced resignation of a third.

The labor dispute also follows notice to Cleo Manago, APEB executive director, by the state Labor Commission that he violated state labor codes when he punished two workers by withholding their paychecks last month because they filed their timesheets late.

Jahn Mel Dash, one of the APEB workers suspended and placed on probation, is on disability leave and receiving worker's compensation.

"Work related stress is causing major difficulties with my condition. They were making me sick. I was having severe diarrhea, headaches and sweats at the office," he told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

Dash says that he was "verbally abused and badgered" by his direct supervisor for bringing up staff grievances about working conditions.

Dash and another employee were suspended after they wrote a memo informing the agency that they had filed for protection with the National Labor Rela-

tions Board and that they would continue to document what they felt were adverse working conditions.

The staff members sought the assistance of the NLRB to "engage in protected, collective activity to improve working conditions" and that such action was necessary to deal with staff complaints.

According to documents obtained by the *Bay Area Reporter*, APEB's director of AIDS Education informed the employees that they were not to write memos concerning grievances.

The employees also informed APEB that it was sending all copies of memoranda about their concerns to the NLRB in case of retaliation by APEB management, as the documents were "protected activity" under NLRB guidelines, taken to improve working conditions.

APEB staff workers also appointed Service Employees International Union Local 616 to represent them in collective bargaining with APEB management.

Dash and other employees of the APEB education department also said that for the past several months they lacked condoms to distribute as part of their AIDS education duties, safe-sex brochures and AIDS audio-visual educational materials.

Citing examples of harassment in the workplace, which included being pulled from all of her community AIDS education speak-

ing presentations, as well as lack of access to her personnel file, one worker sent the APEB board a memorandum of grievances, and the entire education department staff requested that the APEB board of directors intervene.

On Nov. 22, the same day the staff requested the board intervene, that worker, Denise Gums, was terminated by Manago.

According to documents obtained by the *Bay Area Reporter*, Gums informed the APEB that Manago called her up at 2 a.m. to inform her that she was fired.

"Why would anybody call me up at 2 a.m.? I consider it psychological harassment. The problem was that I was raising questions about policy issues," Gums said.

Manago said that Gums "had a vendetta based on some emotional stuff that has nothing to do with the project." He also said that the two employees who were suspended were suspended with pay.



Shanti Donates to African AIDS Project

Shanti Project volunteers, board members, clients and staff have made personal donations totalling \$1,045 to the Township AIDS Project, the only group educating people about HIV prevention in the black townships of South Africa. They receive no governmental funding. "In October of this year we decided to establish an in-house holiday gift campaign in order to make a gift to another AIDS service/education group," said Eric Rofes, executive director of Shanti. "We chose the Township AIDS Project after meeting Simon Nkoli during his recent visit to San Francisco, a visit sponsored by the SF Chapter of Black & White Men Together and the National Task Force on AIDS Prevention/NABWMT." The Los Angeles Gay & Lesbian Community Services Center also will donate \$700 to the project. For information, call Reggie Williams at the National BWMT AIDS Task Force, 255-8378.

Lesbians Picket Williams-Sonoma

by Dennis Conkin

The National Center for Lesbian Rights held an informational picket outside San Francisco Centre's Williams-Sonoma store on Dec. 23 and 24 in support of two lesbians who were fired last year by the kitchen merchandiser.

NCLR this month filed an employment discrimination lawsuit for more than \$165,000 on behalf of Maria Elena Mestayer and Monica Jaquez, two Latina lesbians who were fired by the company in December 1988.

According to Maria de Lamadrid, the director of NCLR's Lesbians of Color project, the women were terminated after Mestayer filed a complaint of unfair wage practices with the California Division of Labor Standards enforcement.

The company's claim that the women were fired for "excessive tardiness," does not take into account, according to de Lamadrid, that white, heterosexual Williams-Sonoma employees

with similar records were not terminated.

NCLR's legal position is that the terminations were a reprisal for the labor complaint and that the women, who are partners, were fired because they were lesbians of color.

"Williams-Sonoma has terrible employment practices," says de Lamadrid. "We're handing out this informational flyer too so people, especially gay and lesbian people, can decide whether to support this company with their holiday money."

An attempt by the group to leaflet inside the San Francisco Centre mall was denied by security personnel after the manager of the Williams-Sonoma outlet complained.

Although Roberta Achtenberg, NCLR executive director, said that the security management "had misread the law" and denied the group access to the property, NCLR leafletted outside the building and at the company's Sutter Street location. ▼

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Nez Pas

Useless Christmas Gifts

'Tis The Season, Still
(A "New Year's" Nose)

All the visions of sugar plums have danced out of my head, and neither my spouse nor I can settle down for any longer winter's nap. All the presents have been given, received, opened and possibly exchanged. Perhaps you are one of the fortunate ones who didn't receive any gifts that have no useful function in your life.

You know the kind I mean: a pet rock, or a *Leave It To Beaver* lunchbox, or an autographed picture of Imelda Marcos.

Here then, are my suggestions for some of the most useless Christmas gifts in your/my/anybody's stocking:

- Any Reagan book whose title starts out with, "Just Say. . .";
- Any lp's or cd's or tapes of Zamfir and his pan flute;
- Any article of clothing that hints about surviving the 10/17/89 earthquake;
- Any video colored by Ted Turner;
- Any colored or black & white copy of the Rob Lowe sex video;

- Any item endorsed/personalized by Pia Zadora;
- Any "authorized/authentic" sample of the Berlin wall;
- Any "authorized/authentic" sample of earthquake sand from the Marina;
- Any "authorized/authentic" sample of the collapsed portion of the Bay Bridge;
- Any "authorized/authentic" shredded anything from Oliver North;

- Any book whose title starts, "1001 Uses For. . .";
- Any memorabilia about Game 5 of the '89 World Series;
- Any of those auto-focus cameras (Who wants to focus in an auto?);

- Any monogrammed underwear of Michael Jackson;
- Any monogrammed underwear of Yoko Ono;
- Any campaign promises from past monarchs;
- Any campaign promises from would-be monarchs;

- Any photographed, framed or not, of yours truly in the nude;
- Any photograph whatsoever of yours truly;
- Any monogamy tips from any bartender;
- Any tanning tips from Empress Timmi;
- Any safe driving tips from PM or CV;
- Any health and fitness tips from a tobacco or alcohol company;
- Any video tour of the Islands of Langerhans;
- Any shopping trip on how to save money from Stephanie;
- Any souvenirs from any of the annual boys/gals softball games;
- Anything that is double knit;
- Anything that is polyester;
- Any dietetic candy;
- Any dietetic anything;
- Any autographed copy of one of yours truly's old columns;
- Anything autographed by yours truly;
- Anything that requires batteries to operate;
- Anything that takes three men and a boy to assemble! (Just



give me the three men and maybe the boy!)

• Either of Tammy Faye Baker's two books: *I Gotta Be Me* or *Run to the Roar*.

Carpe Diem
(A "Idea Whose Time Has Come Again" Nose)

I am sure there are many of you out there in readerland who remember Billy DeFrank. I am sure, also, that many of you remember his fabulous and fantastic "Camp Awards."

Well, word has been spread that none other than the current ISE Imperial Crown Princess, Cathy Hart, is going to revive those Camp Awards (something akin to "Billy DeFrank Memorial Camp Awards") sometime soon.

I was informed that Lady Cathy would change her name while being associated with this very worthwhile endeavor, but I wasn't told just why.

At any rate, it will be fun to see this type of entertainment make a comeback, and bring "camp" up to its rightful position once again. If anybody can replicate those "Camp Awards," Lady Cathy is the one to do it. More power to you, Tyrone!

Gallimaufry
(A "Mish-Mash" Nose)

A few "puzzlers" to start off the New Year, and possibly win a drink or two from your stool mates:

(1) Who said, "Speak for yourself, John"? (Extra points for knowing where it was said.)

(2) What are the first words of *Moby Dick*?

(3) Who was Nixon's running mate in 1960?

(4) How did Thousand Island salad dressing get its name?

(5) What is the closest star to Earth?

(6) What is the longest river in the world, and what continent is it in?

(7) Which of the United States are northernmost, easternmost, westernmost, and southernmost?

(8) What does the "D" in D-day stand for?

(9) Who wrote the lyrics and who wrote the music for Gilbert and Sullivan operettas?

(10) What are the seven deadly sins?

Answers:

(1) Priscilla Mullins in *The Courtship of Miles Standish*, by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow.

(2) "Call me Ishmael."

(3) Henry Cabot Lodge.

(4) It is named after the Thousand Islands scattered along a 50-mile path of the St. Lawrence River that separates New York State from Ontario, Canada.

(5) The Sun.

(6) The Nile, in Africa.

(7) In order, Alaska, Maine, Alaska, Hawaii.

(8) "D" stands for day, the same pattern as "H-hour."

(9) W.S. Gilbert wrote the lyrics and Arthur Sullivan wrote the music.

(10) Pride, covetousness, lust, anger, gluttony, envy and sloth. Hmmm! Oh, sloth means laziness!

And yes, have a very safe, sane, sound, and stimulating New Year, ya' hear?

How come sex is dirty when it's done alone or with three or more? I guess I can smile. Love, Nez. ▼



Crime Watch

As the holiday season approached, Community United Against Violence is receiving numerous reports of muggings. Beware of your surroundings (especially when you're in situations such as taking money from your readyteller machine outside your bank). Keep any packages hidden from view in your car to avoid car break-ins. Carry a whistle.

The following incidents were reported to Community United Against Violence during Nov. 30-Dec. 12:

Grant Avenue (North Beach)—ongoing. A group of about six men and women are threatening to burn a gay man's residence. They are constantly yelling anti-gay threats at him from the street to his window three floors up. His car has been vandalized.

Burlingame (Burroughs-Wellcome headquarters), Dec. 1—World AIDS Day. The California Highway Patrol were brought in alongside police officers to the demonstration. CUAV has received reports of police brutality against the demonstrators.

19th Street and Collingwood—7:30 p.m., Dec. 2. Two gay men were attacked by two youths. One of the victims fled the scene. It is unknown what happened to the other victim.

Land's End—4:45 p.m., Dec. 8. Four young males carrying sticks yelled, "We're gonna kill you faggots!" to a man. They chased the man and threw a rock at him, which barely skimmed him. The man was able to run to safety. We have received numerous reports of anti-gay violence at Land's End. Take extra precautions and go with a group.

During this time we also received three reports of anti-lesbian/gay verbal harassment and threats. ▼

Prop. S

(Continued from page 1)

lie that the concept of domestic partners goes beyond the gay community to include single parents, people with dependents, aunts, uncles or grandparents.

Graff, a member of the mayor's Human Rights Commission, thinks that domestic partners and extended family legislation is on the ground floor of a very exciting change that is taking place in society.

Coalition Building

"The bill we drafted...specifically recognizes and singles out gay and lesbian families as an important family unit along with many other families. What we're doing is coalition building. We're saying that deep within the fabric of our society there are a lot of important types of families," Graff said.

"Essentially the underlying question is: What is the talisman of the marriage license? What makes that relationship so special that it's deserving of so much more recognition and (so many more) economic benefits and protections under the law?

Board of Supervisors President Harry Britt pressed the mayor for endorsement of his domestic partners bill and eventually won his approval.

The board voted 10-0 in favor of the ordinance last June, then sent a recommendation to the mayor for a task force to be created to study family policy matters within the framework of city employment.

Attorney Roberta Achtenberg, executive director for the Lesbian Rights Project, heads the Mayor's Task Force on Family Policy, which will resume hearings in January and February in order to complete their report to the mayor by early March.

The task force has a two-fold target, according to Achtenberg. While it examines the feasibility of having the city offer health benefits to the domestic partners of city employees, it also is in the process of re-examining all of San Francisco's city policies as they relate to the family, including extended and non-traditional families.

Re-Examining Policies

"We have been inquiring from all of the city departments, for example, what category of employee benefits they give on the basis of family relationships and what kinds of services they provide for the citizens of San Francisco where family relationship is a qualification," Achtenberg said. "(We will) determine what's going on in the city and county government as it stands, with hopes of being able to recommend to the mayor that the city and county adopt a family policy that is equitable, and that supports all forms of constructive family, whether it's multi-generational family or two otherwise unrelated persons living in a household."

Matt Coles, an attorney with the American Civil Liberties Union and author of the domestic partnership proposal, said that while some people think his draft is about "benefits" like hospital visitation rights, bereavement leave and health care, they are only illustrations of why we need a practical mechanism to recognize domestic partnerships.

"It's about relationships; it's not about benefits," Coles said. "It's about saying that there are very important emotional, so-

cially significant relationships that aren't defined by blood and aren't defined by marriage."

Meaningful Relationships

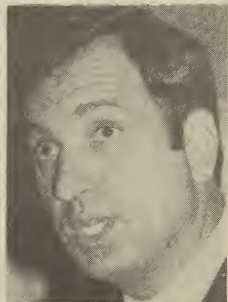
"One of the best ways that society has trivialized lesbians and gay men is by thinking of them as people who are incapable of forming meaningful and significant relationships. One way to break down the stereotypes and overcome some of society's worst misconceptions about lesbians and gay men is by making society realize that there are all sorts of relationships out there—that lesbians and gay men have all sorts of important and committed relationships."

"The difficulty I have with expanding the notion of domestic partnerships to include extended families is that I don't think blood and marital relationships need governmental recognition as a way of assuring their legitimacy. I think society already regards them as legitimate."

Coles is also a member of the Mayor's Task Force on Family Policy. Both agree that now is a time for study and discussion of the issues in the community.

"Next time you want an electoral victory," Achtenberg said. "You don't want to be defeated at the polls twice. I think that it's too soon to know what, if anything, should be taken to the electorate in November. A lot of things have to unfold before that can be intelligently discussed and decided."

"It's not an either/or proposition in my mind. There's no question that lesbians and gay men have been and should be in the leadership of any movement that questions the legitimacy of only one form of family structure...on the other hand, we're not the only ones who are suffering here, and I don't think there's anything wrong with, in fact there are a lot of things right with looking at an entire structure that is bogus. There are a lot of people that structure doesn't serve. I would even argue that it doesn't serve married people that well, either."



Mayor Art Agnos.

(Photo: Rink)

Expanded Legislation

Leaders in the city's other minority communities, some of whom supported Prop. S, have expressed positive views about the possibility of expanding the legislation in the future.

"Now that we have an opportunity to look back at the situation, it gives us the unique opportunity to make it more inclusive, and not exclusive as a lot of people viewed it," said Santiago (Sam) Ruiz, vice-president of the Latino Democratic Club.

"In terms of extended families, that's definitely a concern that I have, and I have it simply because it's been raised by people in this community."

The Rev. Amos Brown of the Third Baptist Church opposed Prop. S and urged his followers not to support it.

"It was poorly defined from the beginning," Brown said.



Roberta Achtenberg.

But when asked whether he would support any future expanded legislation, he responded, "I can't speak about the future. I can only deal with what is now. No one involved in that movement has said anything to me (about the future)."

Supervisor Doris Ward "went out on a limb" when she addressed the Black Leadership Forum's executive committee and won their support for Prop. S, according to a spokesperson from her office.

"It was a coup to get their endorsement, but the general membership did not support it," Ward said.

"I supported Prop. S but I don't think people really understood what it was for," Supervisor Willie Kennedy said. "I think they were sold a bill of goods about this thing blowing the family image. They took someone else's word for what it meant. They didn't try to understand it. People spoke very strongly against it and a lot of them were ministers. People are raised to believe their ministers."

Campaign Failed

"I think a different type of campaign would have seen the passage of Prop. S," Supervisor

Wendy Nelder said. "I also think a slight revision of the legislation itself would have helped Prop. S pass. I don't think it's the issue that failed. It was the campaign that failed. I don't think running a closed campaign worked. That's not the way you win anything. I would be perfectly happy to support it again, but I would try to make it a coalition effort. Frankly, I think it ought to be called extended family legislation."

Wayne April, a member of Dignity/San Francisco, a gay Catholic group that meets every week to hold services and discuss statements from the archdiocese, said, "When you start talking about different kinds of relationships," he said, "you're not talking about a couple who have made vows to one another either

implicitly or explicitly that they will support and love one another. Now you're talking about so-and-so whose grandmother, three aunts and sixteen cousins live with him, and he would be overjoyed to have them covered by the insurance policy where he works. That's a whole different kettle of fish."

Build Solidarity

"I sense a difference out there between some folks who think we ought to change the legislation to make it have broader appeal," said Kevin Caligari, a spokesperson for Dignity. "Some people definitely want to concentrate on recognizing gay and lesbian relationships. I don't know whether those two positions are mutually exclusive. In terms of the next step politically, the community needs to take stock and build relationships and solidarity with other communities, especially the ones that opposed us and really didn't understand what we were getting at."

When asked about a timetable for any type of legislation to be introduced, Coles of the ACLU said the best chance for a victory would be on the ballot in the November 1990 election.

"I think we need some time," he said. "There has been a tremendous amount of soul-searching about what we should do now and how we should put this thing together. I think we need the additional time." ▼

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BAY AREA REPORTER

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Message For The '90s

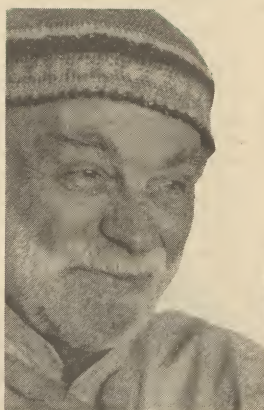
Gay and Lesbian Artists Look to the Future

The last time we had Nineties they were gay. They were also naughty. By the laws of progress gays in the upcoming decade should be gayer and naughtier than ever before. Likewise, alas, homophobes could be even phobier.

Will any decisive progress ever occur without an end to worldwide prejudices of hate and the passion for civil war? Will it always be more acceptable to kill a man than to embrace him?

Tell George and Gorbys to set an example for a new Gay Nineties by dancing together in gay nighties all the way down to the road to an amorous utopia.

—James Broughton
Poet

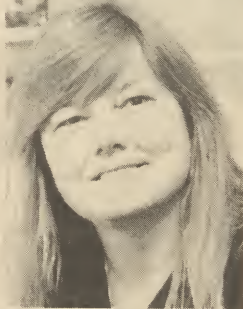


James Broughton
(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

The Nineties! I am sure it's going to be a better decade than the last and I intend to do everything I can to make it so. There's going to be lots of new novels and short story collections by lesbian and gay writers who make no bones about their sexual preference or their political convictions—encouraged and challenged by the first National Lesbian and Gay Writer's Conference here in San Francisco March 3 and 4. Some of those books will be ones I've been waiting for friends to finish for years—queer work by queer artists for queer audiences.

Most of all I'm looking forward to the end of self-censorship in our own arts. Tell me your stories, I tell the writers I love, your whole stories not just the parts you think I will want to hear. It's time we finally began to love each other for how different and unique we are—all genders, colors and classes. The Nineties will be the decade when lesbian and gay artists finally come into a sense of the power of serious truth-telling. We're going to change the world we have known, and it's about damn time.

—Dorothy Allison
Writer, editor



Dorothy Allison
(Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)



Marga Gomez
(Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

I'm optimistic about the Nineties. I'm thinkin' cycle. The Nineties are the Sixties upside down, and since they are Gay, more people will come out of the closet—so will bell bottoms.

Look for Nancy and Ron Reagan to get back into motion pictures, specifically bad porn, with titles like *Just Say Blow*, *Erection Night Victory* and *Meet the Bushes: Oval Office Antics*.

—Marga Gomez
Comedy artiste

Lesbians and gay men of African descent have largely remained invisible and unacknowledged in our communities, Black as well as gay. This is changing.

The next decade will witness our emerging into a thriving, productive, visible community, challenging entrenched myths of what it means to be Black or homosexual, and re-defining both the Black and gay liberation movements, so that both embrace in a common, truly united struggle.

—Marlon Riggs
Filmmaker



Steve Abbott
(Photo: Rick Gerharter)



Jack Collins
(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

Although the 1980s threatened not only the progress of the gay and lesbian movements but also our very survival, our cultures have maintained vibrancy and, indeed, fully matured. The 1990s will witness exciting new developments in all the arts, supported by the establishment of courses and programs in Gay and Lesbian Studies at many institutions of higher learning.

Having imagined a brighter future during the Stonewall era, we will now implement our visions on a grander scale, both for ourselves and for society at large, as our noble social and political experiment, having transformed our own lives, continues to have positive effects amid the so-called mainstream, which can only benefit from the alternatives we have articulated and will continue to imagine and dream.

—Jack Collins
Writer, educator



Barbara Hammer
(Still from *Endangered*)



Marlon Riggs
(Photo: Andre Stern)



Kitty Tsui
(Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

Message for the Nineties? Activism, activism, activism! Speak out, act up, make yourself heard, be committed to your ideals and never let yourself be silenced! Activism begins with you. Set a simple goal and accomplish it. Then challenge yourself with a more complicated issue, perhaps one with a global perspective. Involve others. Plan, build, grow, prosper.

1990 is a Gay Games year. I challenge you to go for the gold and the silver and the bronze! And in true Gay Games spirit, I challenge you to do your best in whatever you choose; whether you are a leader or a follower, activism belongs with you!

—Kitty Tsui
Writer, athlete

Dear Sisters and Brothers, This is a time where the need for great commitment and flexibility is asked of us: commitment to our loved ones, our community and our personal work; flexibility in times of stress and added demands. This is also a time of our great maturity that gives us the added strength to meet these challenges.

As we move into the Nineties, may our absolute insistence on the end of AIDS and the end of cancer be our community goal; the strongest, deepest love we can feel be in our personal lives; and the most daring risk-taking inform our worldly work.

Let laughter be the release and recharge that underscores our dedication to being the fullest of people we are. I salute you.

—Barbara Hammer
Filmmaker

The greatest world threat in the Nineties is ecological. America needs to drastically reorder priorities away from Cold War militarism to save the environment—to stop acid rain, the destruction of Amazon forests, the depletion of the ozone layer and so on. Locally, San Francisco should have a recycling center in every neighborhood.

World poverty—including increased American poverty and homelessness—is the second major problem. Bush's war on drugs can't work because it doesn't address this. I predict support for drug legalization will increase in the Nineties. Finally, the nation's health care/insurance system must be totally revamped.

As gays we have to network with other communities and address these issues.

—Steve Abbott
Poet

What If It Were the Gay And Lesbian '90s?

by Kate Brandt

A couple of weeks ago, my lover and I had some friends over for a holiday gathering. All but one of the guests were women, and most were lesbians. The conversation included such topics as Montreal's "feminist murders," computers, erotica, theater, and hair transplants (don't ask?). Eclectic, yes; but I realized afterwards how little the talk touched on topics of real concern to our lives as lesbians in a society that daily seems to be turning more conservative and homophobic.

Perhaps I'm being too heavy-handed, too "politically correct." After all, it was a tree-trimming party, not an issues forum. But maybe that's the problem; maybe there are too many lesbians in the living room and not enough in the streets.

Yes, I know; I've read the articles about the lesbian infiltration of the Castro (second only to the dreaded heteroification of the neighborhood). And yes, all the best organizations have written into their charters provisions for male and female co-chairs.

A Long Way to Go

But that doesn't change the fact that when it comes to visibility and power, lesbians have a long way to go.

For example: lesbian attorney Roberta Achtenberg and the National Center for Lesbian Rights have done outstanding work in the field of lesbian and gay parenting. They have created new case law that has improved the quality of our lives, even those of us who choose to remain childless, because they are setting precedents that allow us to define our own families.

Yet when the phenomenon of lesbian motherhood is covered by the national media, what do we get? We get a feature on the news-magazine show 20/20 notable for its grim shaking of heads and the caveat that not until these children of lesbian mothers reach adolescence will we be able to judge the effect on them of having "different" families (a "negative attitude toward men" was one of the predicted dire consequences). The "experts" with whom the reporter consulted to reach these conclusions were two middle-aged male pediatricians—not Roberta Achtenberg or any other lesbian who might be in a better position to comment.

Then there's Pat Norman. The long-time lesbian activist has run for the office of San Francisco Supervisor three times. In 1988, her backers felt that she would go all the way, not only because her support and name recognition had increased, but also because it was assumed that she would receive the endorsement of progressive Mayor Art Agnos, for whom she was an early and strong campaigner in 1987.

But Art didn't return the favor, and his silence could very well



Lesbian mothers adopt: Attorney Roberta Achtenberg, left, with Sue Pavlic, Eric Pavlic-Jensen and Millie Jensen.

(Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

have cost Pat a deserved seat on the Board of Supervisors. Although the conservative element in San Francisco likes to believe that Art is in the pocket of the gay community, it's obvious he isn't in the backpack of the lesbians.

Ignored When We're Good

When we're good, we're ignored. But when we're bad...

When Lynn Griffis was found to be lying about being the victim of homophobic attacks, and when Jean O'Leary preemptively fired the legal staff at National Gay Rights Advocates, the local press (both gay and mainstream) headlined every rumor, fact and nuance of both stories.

But for every Lynn and Jean in our community, there are dozens of women doing good work, important work. When will they be on the front pages?

How could Cary Nosworthy be allowed to retire from her post as head of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation Food Bank without public tributes galore? How

many of us even know that Cary started the Food Bank while working as an administrative assistant at the AIDS Foundation, and that she ran it for over seven years, at one point raising almost single-handedly more money than the Food Bank could spend (a situation that unfortunately has not been repeated in the face of a tragically rising caseload)?



Jackie Winnow

(Photo: Wendy McEchern)

Or what about Jackie Winnow? After learning that she had cancer, Jackie took her experience in AIDS and lesbian/feminist organizations and founded the Women's Cancer Resource Center. This now-thriving enterprise serves women, lesbian as well as heterosexual, who have to

face not only illness, but also sexism, homophobia, and (frequently) poverty in their fight for survival. In addition, Jackie has bravely challenged the vaunted "San Francisco model" of AIDS care by asking the gay community where our services are for women with cancer (you can read Jackie's own eloquent words on the subject in *Out/Look* No. 5 and *Sinister Wisdom* No. 39).

Hard to Emulate Unknowns

These women should be our role models. But how can we emulate them if we don't know about them? And why should we emulate them, when we see how little recognition, respect and support they receive from their gay family (much less the rest of society)?

And what about the younger generation of lesbians? How will they take over from us—and do a better job—if we're not setting any kind of good examples for them?

Young women who would come out if they had the chance, if they knew it was an option, may not be reading their hometown gay newspapers. But they are watching, listening to, and probably having crushes on the new generation of strong, lusty female rock and pop musicians.

Do they know how many of these women cut their musical teeth on the "women's music" circuit? No, and they probably never will, since the gold pot of major label contracts and Grammy nominations has replaced the rainbow of lesbian community.

With the laudable exception of Phranc, these women are hiding behind "gender-free" lyrics and toughly reticent personas. Even Cris Williamson, the doyenne of women's music, has said publicly, "No one knows if I am [a lesbian] or not" (*Hot Wire*, September 1989).

If we continue to hide—and be hidden—throughout the "gay [male] '90s," who will be left for the 21st century. ▼

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Art Lovers Outing

Art Lovers Outing visits San Francisco Museum of Modern Art on Saturday, Dec. 30 for an afternoon of art, relaxation and informal socializing. The group, which has been visiting galleries, museums and artists' studios since 1987, brings together people who enjoy seeing new art and special shows and meeting artists. It is an outlet and resource for anyone, at any level of interest or involvement, who wants to "keep up" on what's going on in art in the Bay Area.

Art Lovers Outing is an offering of Community Spirit Art Program, an arts coalition centered in San Francisco's gay and lesbian community which presents art events and activities to boost positive morale during the AIDS health crisis. Art Lovers Outing "art hikes" occur approximately every third Saturday, last about three hours and can include walking exercise, sometimes an op-

tional stopover for a light snack at a local cafe or restaurant afterwards. Participants may come once or frequently, and there are no costs beyond the occasional individual admission, snack or meal, etc.

Currently San Francisco Museum of Modern Art is featuring "Bay Area Figurative Art: 1950-1965," an important historical survey. The show has received critical interest for its illuminating works by major artists like David Park. The group will view this and other exhibits. The museum admission fee is \$3.50.

To join the "art hike," call in a reservation with your name and phone number, to Ken Rackow at 626-3368. On Saturday, Dec. 30, gather inside the museum front entrance at Van Ness and McAllister at 1 p.m.; the group will proceed upstairs to the exhibits at 1:20 p.m. ▼

Research saves lives.

Men's Group Fights Homophobia

by Marv. Shaw

Stung by the 1986 U.S. Supreme Court's *Hardwick* decision, the National Organization for Changing Men (NOCM) launched its Campaign to End Homophobia. Gordon Murray, a psychotherapist practicing in the Castro, is the campaign's chairperson.

Fighting homophobia is far from an isolated battle, Murray explained in a recent interview with the *Bay Area Reporter*. It is part and parcel, he says, of a wholesale, complex plan for altering the nature of the male.

Creating a National Network

As explained in the Campaign to End Homophobia brochure, its goals are "to create a national network in which people can work together to develop strategies for reducing homophobia, to encourage others to examine homophobia in their lives and to focus public attention on the problem of homophobia."

In general, the efforts and means are on generating as much public education as can be attained through as many channels as can be utilized. Consequently, national conferences, beginning with the one in Washington, D.C., in May 1988, are concentrated on exchanging strategies and resources for reducing homophobia and building a long range goal with like-minded groups.

Signing on as early co-sponsors were the Unitarian Universalist Association, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, Horizons Community Service, the Methodist Federation for Social Action, and many more.

The second conference was held in Los Angeles in July 1989. The next will be in Seattle in July 1990, on the weekend just preceding the start of the Gay Games in neighboring Vancouver. Under discussion are plans for convening in Chicago in 1991 and Toronto in 1992.

As an example of the organization's findings and energy going right to the grass roots, Murray cited the incorporation of an anti-homophobia unit into a sex education curriculum being designed by a straight woman elementary school teacher in upstate New York.

Murray characterizes himself as "being political before I was gay." By that he means that his social consciousness impelled him into the campaign for gaining civil rights for blacks in Mississippi in the 1960s and then later into activities against United States involvement in Vietnam.

"From these I naturally gravitated to NOCM, coming to believe that all gays are really political," he stated.

Bridge Between Gays and Straights

About NOCM itself, Murray sees it as a "bridge between straight men and women, on the

one hand, and those two groups with gay men and lesbians on the other."

He views NOCM as the prime agent through which it is possible to recognize and work against the racism, sexism, and homophobia that we have been culturally conditioned to absorb. He estimates that about 50 percent of the membership is gay male. A significant number of women also participate.

The group's name has been both intriguing and perplexing to many. "Changing—to what?" has often been the sarcastic rejoinder, even among members, some of whom have started a serious consideration for a new appellation.

But new title or not, the basic intention is for men to change, to recognize the stereotypical male role as unhealthy—for the self, for society, for all other peoples, and for the planet itself.

According to NOCM, living up to our culture's expectations for manhood impels men into workaholic, isolation from other men, limited self awareness of emotional needs, alcohol and drug abuse, and fear of being perceived as gay. The consequences of this appear as rape, fag-bashing, spousal abuse, imprisonment, suicide, war, and the pillaging of our earth.

Under the NOCM umbrella there are many task forces in addition to the Campaign to End Homophobia: fathering, men and aging, gay rights, ending men's violence, and pornography, to name a few. While primary concern is healthful growth within the members, outreach goes to activists in related fields, educators, human service providers, and artists.

A characteristic example of related outreach is *Empathy*, the newsletter whose purpose is to end prejudice and violence against sexual minorities, now published twice a year by the Gay and Lesbian Advocacy and Research Project. The Spring-Summer issue highlights an interview with Virginia Uribe, a Los Angeles educator who founded and runs Project Ten for High school-age gay boys and lesbians.

Another is the *Mens Studies Review*, a quarterly put out by the Men's Studies Association. The fall 1989 issue contains a review of *Perverts by Order*, about the U.S. Navy's queer hunt at Newport, Rhode Island during World War I.

Decidedly Feminist In Orientation

In the last year the NOCM has identified itself as being decidedly feminist in philosophical orientation. This stance has raised a couple of problems. First, those men's liberation groups who are antagonistic or apathetic toward feminism will no longer be included or associated with such national events as the annual Men and Masculinity Conference, the 14th of which was

held in 1989.

One such "men's rights" group Murray characterizes as being composed mainly of fathers denied custody rights after bitter divorces. Another is those followers of a "mythopoetic" cult led by men such as Robert Bly and Shepherd Bliss. This latter group Murray sees as being "homophobic by omission" for their avoidance of gay concerns.

Another problem is semantic. "Feminist" means, to many men, "effeminate." Basically, the former term really means an inclusive equality between and among straight men and women and gay men and lesbians.

As for the latter term, Murray pointed out that it really is a pejorative term used as a put-down by straight men who fear—and therefore hate—the acceptant, warm equality that threatens their limited sense of masculinity. Once feminism really succeeds, "effeminate" will be archaic.

Questioned about the gay male tendency now to exaggerate the masculine—the muscle pumping, the bikes, the leather—as an unreasonable reaction to the historical gay male stereotype, Murray replied that he sees such manifestations—and also the deliberate cultivation of the feminine in some gay men—as a positive liberation from the strictures of conventional roles.



NOCM's Gordon Murray.

At this point in its development, Murray sees the major problem and the demanding work of the task force to be "linking and articulating sexism, racism, and homophobia to show how all three work together and against us." He sees the first job as a realization of this negative triad among the members themselves—and then the larger effort to convince the populace at large.

In an example of the latter he cited a series of anti-homophobia newspaper ads run by a group in

Alexandria, Virginia. Murray's campaign publishes an ongoing, cumulative resource guide, a comprehensive list of print and audio-visual materials on a myriad of gay-related subjects.

Though there is no local chapter of the NOCM, more information and an application to join can be secured by writing to Jim Hannekan, NOCM, 794 Penn Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15221.

Information on the Campaign to End Homophobia can be had by contacting Gordon Murray, 4216 18th St., San Francisco, CA 94114. ▼

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AT&T Donates Computer to Task Force

AT&T has provided a free computer, printer and related software to the Contra Costa County AIDS Task Force.

More than 21,000 volunteer hours have reached the community through the task force this

year, primarily in the areas of AIDS education and emotional support to people impacted by the disease.

The computer will be used to administer these efforts and produce a monthly newsletter. ▼

'Funny Face' at the Castro

Beating the Seasonal Mean Reds

by Jay Newquist

A jug of wine, thou, and a nice new print of *Funny Face* (at the Castro) is a far better way to escape holiday cannibalism than shopping for a therapist doll for Barbie and Ken.

The revival of this classic 1956 film—or any icon that springs fully-armed upon us—invariably triggers a retrospective agenda in the viewer that doesn't merely associate with personal history.

What astounds about *Funny Face* is what hasn't changed since 1956 when Director Stanley Donen (*Royal Wedding*, *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers*) took a gamine Audrey Hepburn and paired her with an aging Fred Astaire.

Hepburn played an undernourished clerk in a Greenwich Village bookstore that caters to such an esoteric clientele that no one bothers to patronize the place. Astaire was a fashion magazine photographer who wants to market the disinterested Hepburn as a model and whisk her off to Paris.

They sing to the monuments, Astaire hoofs a bit, and the pair, separated by an age difference of at least 15 years, float away on a raft through the preponderance of camera filters used to give an ethereal quality to this unlikely romance.

What hasn't changed in the intervening years is the ticket to

box office gold provided by the George and Ira Gershwin songs that are so well blocked into the film that they seem to transcend the dialogue.

Hepburn Magic

What hasn't changed is the magic that Audrey Hepburn—now at age 60—still claims, and how that once-elfin face, now showing the tyranny of the years, still radiates a beauty that transcends physical decay. We are so willing to suspend the aging process because Hepburn has always been so disparaging about those very looks.

Astaire, now deceased, also proves what hasn't changed because the man who "dances a little and is slightly bald" merely needs to tap the floor with his shoe to generate a crowd.

True, Astaire's role is one of a few where he doesn't play a professional dancer, so his talent has been reared in to accommodate his photographer persona in *Funny Face*, but he dances in grace note style enough to accommodate his fans.

The Hepburn-Astaire teaming, if one can grasp their romance across the generations, is not inspired or believable and neither is the script, which reads like Sandra Dee wrote it on an envelope while traveling to Gettysburg.

Still, the star power of the

leads—another trait that hasn't changed—in this case overcomes the insipid and silly sides to *Funny Face*, especially the cult of the mind garbage the Hepburn character professes in an ersatz beatnik style. (Remember the great beat line in the unlikely *Auntie Mame*?—"How bleak was my puberty.")

Fluff and Good Fluff

We can't lose the point of *Funny Face*, however, which is that fluff and good fluff is valid in much the same way there is perfectly respectable movie trash and disreputable movie garbage.

Director Donen, who teamed with Hepburn again in the classic *Two for the Road* in 1966, was never a heavy thinker, and here we have the prototype—the movie that doesn't offer much more than transient visceral beauty (aided by those accursed filters).

Whatever happened to the film that was supposed to make you feel better? Now they're making them with Sylvester Stallone with a cleat in his nose or Sally Field with crow's-feet wailing ad nauseam over her daughter's grave in *Steel Magnolias*.

Funny Face, (which plays with a different Astaire co-feature each day, Dec. 29-Jan. 4) makes us feel rather cleansed of a lot of life's baggage, especially the seasonal mean reds, so wallow in this



Gamin Audrey Hepburn in *Funny Face*.

one. There are no more masked men out there to save us: this film will have to do.

Funny Face
Castro Theatre, through Jan. 4
621-6120

Ride This Train

by Daniel Mangin

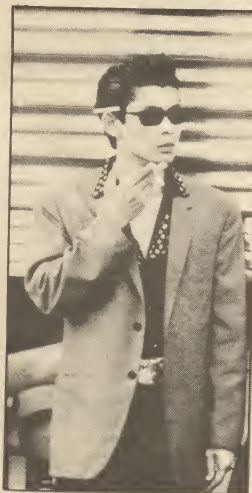
The South, always a fertile ground for literature, is no less productive an inspiration for the movies. The state of Louisiana was the site of two prominent 1989 pictures, *sex, lies and videotape* and *Blaze*, and with the release last week of Jim Jarmusch's *Mystery Train*, Tennessee, specifically Memphis, emerges as a state of mind, or, to be more precise, a state of dislocation for a disparate group of characters from three continents.

In *Mystery Train*, Jarmusch (*Stranger Than Paradise*, *Down By Law*) again creates a memorable cast—some of them locals, others just visiting—who, in three separate segments (with a few common elements among them) find themselves caught in the mythic sway of Memphis, a city over which the ghost of Elvis Presley still reigns supreme.

The first, and most fully realized segment, "Far From Yokohama," is about Jun (Masatoshi Nagase) and Mitsuho (Youki Kudoh), a young Japanese couple in their late teens who have come to Memphis out of adoration for fabled Sun Records (he) and Elvis (she). Like the Italian woman in the second segment who's been routed with her just-dead husband's body through Memphis and the British factory worker who's just been laid off from his job and lost his wife in the third, the Japanese couple's adventures serve as a springboard for a subtle but well-thought-out treatise on the gap between the real and ideal, the poetic and the mundane.

Trademark Long Takes

Using his trademark long takes and slowly unfurling action that occurs in an almost suspended real time, Jarmusch succeeds in making an intriguing, accessible minimalist picture, no small feat. Although the dialogue is pithy and the score—a combination of



Masatoshi Nagase

Memphis-originated rock and rhythm and blues hits and additional, atmospheric music by John Lurie—flesh out Jarmusch's concept, the bulk of our impressions about the characters comes through the visuals.

Several of the long takes in "Far From Yokohama" work particularly well, including one in which the couple sit in front of a statue of Elvis (revealed late in the take) and discuss the merits of Carl Perkins vs. Elvis, and two after they arrive at the dilapidated Arcade Hotel.

In the former scene, their argument about Perkins and Elvis—punctuated by tricks with a cigarette lighter and kissing—is at once humorous and revealing; their romance is steeped as much in myth and ritual as their notions about America and American rock.

In the hotel (run by Screamin' Jay Hawkins) wisecracking night

(Continued on page 40)

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Gay Couple Wows Oprah

by Richard McPherson

The following voice-over was part of the opening of Oprah Winfrey's Dec. 19 show:

"Should the United States be the next country to legalize marriage between homosexuals? Well, there is a growing movement pushing for what many gay people call their civil rights to be called a family. And should gay people have the right to raise children?"

Winfrey then introduced her first guests, bodybuilder Bob Paris and the man he calls his "husband," model Rod Jackson.

"My first guests shocked the athletic world when one of them announced just last year that he is homosexual," Winfrey said.

Intersection Finds New Location

Intersection for the Arts will move to a new location at 446 Valencia St. between 15th and 16th. Renovation of the former Mancuso Brothers Furniture building has begun and will be completed by mid-April in time for Intersection to launch its 25th anniversary celebration.

In the meantime, Intersection's theatre, literary and gallery programs will continue at various sites throughout San Francisco.

The new Intersection will house a 75 seat theatre on the ground floor and a spacious third floor gallery. San Francisco architect Alan Fleming will design the building's facade.

"We are very excited to be just around the corner from the active 16th and Valencia Street neighborhood," says executive director Frances Phillips. "The new location positions Intersection in a community of cafes, clubs and theatres and provides us with the resources of a thriving arts and entertainment community."

In February, the Intersection takes to the streets with a one day, public art, installation/performance at Justin Herman Plaza. A call for submissions is forthcoming. March 30-April 1, the Mission Cultural Center hosts the symposium "Women Artists: Race, Power, Politics. Crossing Cultures to Map the '90s." Artist-in-residence Bob Holman will develop a poets' theatre piece with local poets and performances at 1,800 Square Feet, 719 Clementina St., in mid-February. Poet Eliot Weinberger will read in conjunction with his literary residency at the new Forest book store located at 16th and Valencia streets. More events will be announced.

Intersection moved from its former residence at 766 Valencia due to the expense involved in bringing the building up to seismic safety codes.

"In the light of the recent quake it was imperative that we move to a safer building that offered us a long enough lease to make renovation cost effective. Our new landlord, Dominic Mancuso, is very supportive of us as an arts organization," Phillips says.

The Mancuso Furniture is a three-story, free-standing structure built in 1931. The family-run furniture store was prominent in the commercial life of the Mission District until 1985. The building is still owned by the original family.

"Bob Paris is an internationally known bodybuilder," Winfrey continued. "He was Mr. Universe and Mr. America in 1983 and in June [1989] he got married in a church ceremony to his lover. . . Bob and Rod say that they should have the right as citizens to be married in the eyes of the state."

Honest Examination

So began Winfrey's show, an open and honest examination of gay and lesbian love and marriage. Unlike talk show hosts Donahue and Rivera, who fan the flames of controversy to attract attention, Winfrey created a relaxed atmosphere from the outset, quietly asking intelligent and pertinent questions for 25 minutes, allowing Paris and Jackson to describe their love for each other and to outline what they believe is their right to a legal marriage.

It appeared, in fact, that Paris and Jackson chose her for this reason. Winfrey greeted them by saying, "I'm glad you turned everyone else down and said 'yes' to Oprah."

Winfrey began with the question, "Do you consider yourselves married?"

"Yes we do. . . absolutely," the couple chimed in together.

"Married in the way your parents were married?"

"Hopefully much better," both said.

"Marriage comes from the heart," Paris continued, "and even if society doesn't recognize it as legal, it should take place in the heart first."

"We're supposed to be in a pluralistic and free society, and that society should provide the rights to all its citizens," Paris said. "All we're asking for is the same rights that everyone else is guaranteed."

Concluded Jackson, "People think it's so liberal [gay marriage], it's actually a very conservative issue. We want a traditional wedding, we want the responsibilities of being married. We want, basically the same rights as

(Continued on page 48)



Bob Paris appeared with Rod Jackson on Oprah.

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MUSIC

Personal Beats

by David Taylor-Wilson

The surest way for a music columnist to commit literary suicide is to run his own personal best list. No matter what's in the list, it will always enrage readers to write and disagree with everything on the list. So before you read on, remember that this list reflects my *personal* favorites. They are not representative of any political happenings that were going on at the time, and they do not reflect sales figures or radio airplay.

When we ran what *Rolling Stone* magazine considered to be the best albums of the decade a few issues back, it brought in lots of mail asking for The Beat's listing of personal bests. The computers have finished clicking and whirring, and we have some winners. We have chosen two albums and two singles from each year of the past decade, and they are here now because inquiring minds wanted to know...



And, as long as we're in a char-
tin' mode, *Billboard* magazine,
the authority on the music busi-
ness, has just released the results
for 1989. The album results are
based on total sales figures,
whereas the singles results reflect
radio airplay. And the winners
are:

Top Pop Singles of 1989:

1. "Look Away," Chicago
2. "My Prerogative," Bobby Brown
3. "Every Rose Has Its Thorn," Poison
4. "Straight Up," Paula Abdul
5. "Miss You Much," Janet Jackson
6. "Cold Hearted," Paula Abdul
7. "Wind Beneath My Wings," Bette Midler
8. "Girl You Know It's True," Milli Vanilli
9. "Baby, I Love Your Way," Will To Power
10. "Giving You The Best That I Got," Anita Baker
11. "Right Here Waiting," Richard Marx
12. "Waiting For A Star To Fall," Boy Meets Girl
13. "Lost In Your Eyes," Debbie Gibson
14. "Don't Wanna Lose You," Gloria Estefan
15. "Heaven," Warrant
16. "Girl I'm Gonna Miss You," Milli Vanilli
17. "The Look," Roxette
18. "She Drives Me Crazy," Fine Young Cannibals
19. "On Our Own," Bobby Brown
20. "Two Hearts," Phil Collins



Personal no. 13 best single of '89: Debbie Gibson's "Lost in Your Eyes," from *Electric Youth*.

Best Albums

- 1980 *The Long Run*, Eagles
Off The Wall, Michael Jackson
- 1981 *The Dude*, Quincy Jones
Zenyatta Mondatta, The Police
- 1982 *Ghost in the Machine*, The Police; *Never Too Much*, Luther Vandross
- 1983 *Thriller*, Michael Jackson; *Midnight Love*, Marvin Gaye
- 1984 *1984*, Van Halen; *Private Dancer*, Tina Turner
- 1985 *Purple Rain*, Prince & The Revolution; *Whitney Houston*, Whitney Houston
- 1986 *Rapture*, Anita Baker; *Winner In You*, Patti LaBelle
- 1987 *Control*, Janet Jackson; *Give Me The Reason*, Luther Vandross
- 1988 *Kick*, INXS; *Duotones*, Kenny G
- 1989 *Giving You The Best That I Got*, Anita Baker; *Don't Be Cruel*, Bobby Brown

Best Singles

- "Cruisin'," Smokey Robinson, "Ride Like The Wind," Christopher Cross
- "Another One Bites The Dust," Queen, "Don't Stand So Close To Me," The Police
- "Hurts So Good," John Cougar Mellencamp, "Don't You Want Me?" The Human League
- "Billie Jean," Michael Jackson, "Sexual Healing," Marvin Gaye
- "Holiday," Madonna, "Let's Stay Together," Tina Turner
- "We Are The World," USA for Africa, "I Feel For You," Chaka Khan
- "Sweet Love," Anita Baker, "That's What Friends Are For," Dionne Warwick & Friends
- "Shake You Down," Gregory Abbott, "The Way It Is," Bruce Hornsby and The Range
- "Never Gonna Give You Up," Rick Astley, "Piano In The Dark," Brenda Russell featuring Joe Esposito
- "Giving You The Best That I Got," Anita Baker, "Baby, I Love Your Way," Will To Power



Pick of '89: *The Traveling Wilburys*.

Fast Forward

As 1989 winds down, we look forward to the new decade with big hopes for big changes in the music field, including: artists

who will take on the challenge of relying on their own individual talent rather than pilfering other

(Continued on page 48)

Dionne Warwick at Masonic

Early Present from Santa

by David Taylor-Wilson

It's only fair to warn you that all of the following is highly biased. Steady readers of "The Beat" are well aware that I am one of Dionne Warwick's most rabid fans. The woman could sing me the Yellow Pages and I wouldn't complain. So remember, you've been warned.

Guest conductor Paul Phillips kicked off Dionne Warwick's Dec. 16 concert with the San Francisco Symphony at Masonic Auditorium with the overture from Bernstein's *Candide*. The performance also included "Habanera" from George Bizet's *Carmen*, Saint-Saens' "Bacchanale" from *Samson et Dalila*, highlights from the Ellington-Lowden *Sophisticated Ladies*, a medley of Christmas classics, and selections from Andrew Lloyd-Webber's *Phantom of the Opera*.

Sleek Entrance

Warwick, with the walk of a panther on the prowl, entered the stage in a sleek, sexy, black, full-length gown, to strains of her classic, "Walk On By." A single spotlight on her, creating somewhat of a halo as it reflected highlights of her blonde (yes, blonde) hair. She wasted no time at all, grabbing the microphone and launching into the song to thunderous applause.

A medley of Warwick classics, "I Say A Little Prayer," the 1966 Grammy-winning "Do You Know The Way To San Jose?" and "Alfie." Then, in what Ms. War-

wick explained was a tribute to the men in music she most admired, she sat perched upon a stool and belted out a medley of songs made famous by City-boy Johnny Mathis ("Chances Are" and "The 12th Of Never"), Jeffrey Osborne ("On The Wings of Love"), Luther Vandross ("So Amazing" and "Never Too Much"), and Stevie Wonder ("My Cherie Amour" and "I Just Called To Say I Love You").

The cheering from the crowd never let up.

Currently, Warwick is paired in a duet with Jeffrey Osborne in the single, "Take Good Care of You," which is doing well in the national Top 40. Through the magic of magnetic tape, the duet performed it "together" at the Masonic.

Bacharach-David Showstoppers

The real showstoppers, however, were the Burt Bacharach-Hal David classic compositions. When the Bacharach-David songwriting team worked together, they tailored their compositions to match Ms. Warwick's vocal range, then embellished her singing with some of the most beautiful orchestrations ever. With the impeccable, flawless backing of the San Francisco Symphony, "Any Day Now" shone with an all-new sparkle and magnificence. The real surprise of the evening for me was her interpretation of the Patti LaBelle-

Michael McDonald former no. 1 single, "On Your Own." It was beautiful. With the Symphony behind her, the song took on a completely new life, with all of the characteristic beauty and personality of a Bacharach-David piece.

Another good past pairing for Warwick was with Barry Manilow. She has admitted that at first she was uncertain of the collaboration. At the time, Manilow was riding high himself, and at question was the amount of time and effort he would be able to devote to a Warwick project.

The resulting tracks were among the biggest-selling hits of her career, "Deja Vu" and "I'll Never Love This Way Again." When she sang these, the audience was putty in her hands.

"Friends" Brings House Down

The evening closed with Warwick dedicating her final song to the audience, with a wish for a Merry Christmas. The 1986 no. 1 song of the year, "That's What Friends Are For," brought the house down. I don't need to tell you, with all proceeds from the sale of it and the video of the recording session going to the American Foundation for AIDS Research (AMFAR), the special meaning this song has in our community; it comes as no surprise that Ms. Warwick received a prolonged standing ovation for it.

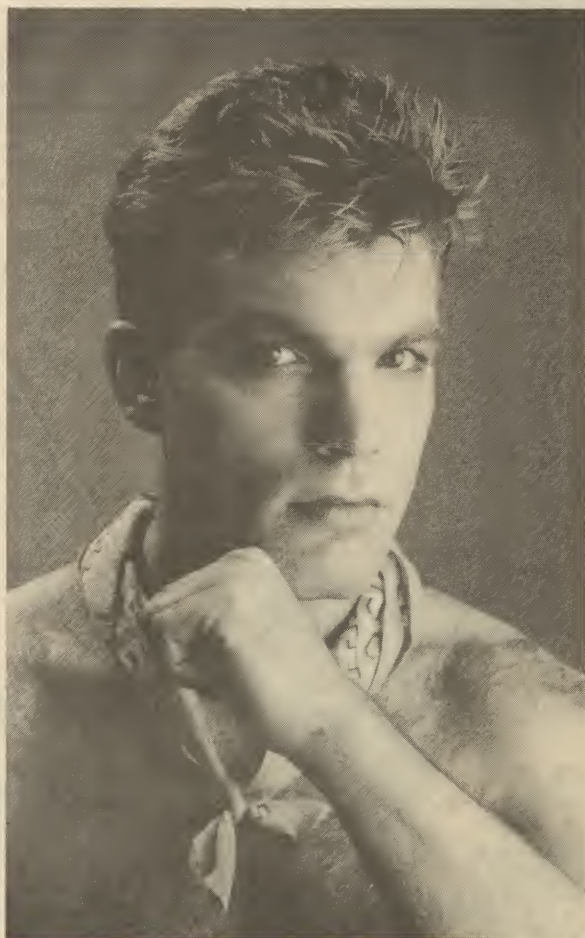


She could have sung the Yellow Pages: Dionne Warwick with the San Francisco Symphony Dec. 16.

What you may not know is that since the inception of the "Friends" project, Ms. Warwick has formed her own charity group, BRAVO (Blood Revolves Around Victorious Optimism), which is associated with the City of Hope in Duarte, California, in order to build a facility for the

research and treatment of all blood-related diseases. Warwick is a true champion in and out of her field.

The evening at the Masonic with this grand lady of song was beautiful and most perfect, an early Christmas present. Thanks, Santa. ▼



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MUSIC

These Redheads Raise a Ruckus

by M.J. Murphy

Recipe for an exciting evening: Take one funky bass guitarist, a passionate keyboard player, two top-notch horn blowers, two dynamic percussionists, and mix thoroughly. Season with African, Latin, funk, jazz, and rhythm and blues flavors. Shake with saxophones, piano, flute, piccolo, harmonica, bass, drums, timbales, conga, gongos and any other percussion instrument you can get your hands on. Serve up to a willing audience (garnish of dance shoes is optional) and you have one of the finest musical combos that the Bay Area has to offer.

Call them The Blazing Redheads and get ready for a real treat. This six member, all-women band is going to take you to Paradise (the Lounge, that is) on New Year's Eve for a raucous night of dance, dance, dance. This will be one of their last Bay Area performances for the next couple of months because this hot sextette has plans, big plans, for the 1990s.

The Blazing Redheads self-titled debut album was released in 1988, gaining national atten-

tion from radio stations and music critics alike. In May 1989, the National Association of Independent Record Distributors and Manufacturers (NAIRD) presented an award in the category of contemporary jazz for that release "in grateful acknowledgement of your exceptional contribution to the world of creative independent music."

"Rhythmo-Fusion" Music

This type of recognition has helped The Blazing Redheads gain access to dozens of venues across the nation where they play their unique blend of "rhythmo-fusion," a term they coined to describe their sound. They have been out on three tours so far, all successful, and are planning a 10-day tour to the Pacific Northwest in mid-February.

While most of their bookings have come from dance-oriented clubs, the group has recently been asked to play at more prestigious "sit-down" clubs, and have performed with Tower of Power, Pete Escovedo, Tuck & Patti, and Indigo Girls among others.



Blazing Redheads at Yoshi's Dec. 22.

(Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

"That's always the questions with The Blazing Redheads," says manager Susan Roth. "Do you dance holes in your shoes or sit back and soak up the fine details of their music? Audiences love to do both."

"I love to be up there playing and watch people dance," said drummer Dannielle Dowers. "But some of our music is really intricate and has lots of arrangements. So, it's fun to play a gig where people are really listening more like a jazz audience. Both ways are fun."

Donna Viscuso plays flute, piccolo, alto sax, and harmonica and is one of the original members of the band. She said that on a recent trip to Detroit, The Blazing Redheads played at Alexander's, one of the top jazz clubs there.

"Lillie, our bass player, is from Detroit," Viscuso said. "She was really shocked that we got to play at Alexander's because they book really heavy-duty jazz people. . . it went over really well."

Each member of the group is extremely talented. They have strong music credentials and a wide range of experience which contributes to the band's creative drive and independent spirit.

"There are five fluent writers in the band which gives us an array of compositions from different backgrounds," said Remy Arnone, keyboard player with the band since 1987.

"Everyone contributes to the arrangements of each song. I'm of Latin background, but I really didn't have much appreciation for Latin music because I was brought up with it. So when I came out here I started playing Latin music to get back to my roots. The rhythms were easy for me to pick up because they were so familiar."

Second Release Due Next Year

The Blazing Redheads will be returning to the recording studio at the end of January to work on their second release.

Until then, they will be rehearsing their new compositions, fine-tuning their new, funkier sound.

"We're at least a year overdue on that project," said Michaelle Georlitz, one of the original percussionists with the band. "Our last album was fine, but it's old. The band's personnel has changed so much; three people on that album aren't with the band any-

more. We have two new people now, and our sound has changed as a consequence of that."

"The band is really different," according to Viscuso. "It's in a whole different place. We play a lot more funk. Our new bass player, Lillie Robinson, plays a lot funkier than before. The sound has evolved. We've grown a lot."

The Blazing Redheads showed off some of their new songs at Yoshi's, a comfortable jazz club in Oakland last Friday night. The first two sets included "Sweet Dreamin'," "7.1," "Cosmo," "Weasel," and a new rap version of the old favorite "Get Down and Stay Down."

The improvisational "Miss Whip It" was brilliantly played and included an outstanding tenor sax performance by Klaudia Promessi whose musical background ranges from symphonic to jazz to R&B to country swing.

Looking for a Label

With a recording session next month, a tour of the Northwest planned for the following month, and continuous writing and work schedules, does that leave room for anything more? The group would like to be picked up by a major record label to expand their popularity.

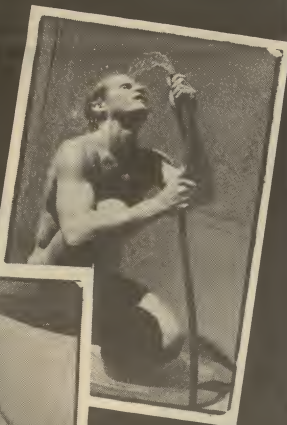
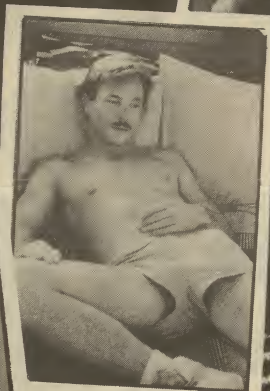
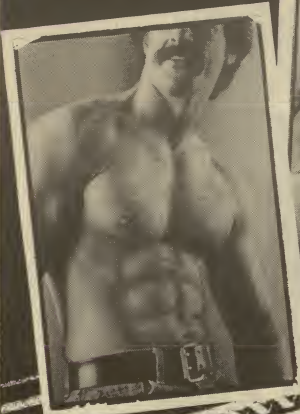
"We want to do more tours—even internationally to Japan and Europe," Dowers said. "We want to be able to enlarge our audience while still being able to play the music we love. That's the tricky part because the rule tends to be in this business, the more popular you get, the more watered down your music gets. It doesn't have to be that way!"

After sampling just a small taste of The Blazing Redheads, I know this recipe is too potent to ever be watered down. In fact, it seems to get even better with time. ▼

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Blazing Redheads composer/percussionist Georlitz.

(Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

Wagner and Strauss at SF Opera

Teutonic Splendor

by George Heymont

Everyone has his favorite operas. This fall, the San Francisco Opera performed two of mine.

Lohengrin offers the listener four solid hours of musical foreplay as Wagner's score keeps building toward a climax. Then, just when it is on the brink of ecstatic release, the music falls back and starts building its momentum anew.

One of the all-time lung-busters of the German repertoire, *Die Frau Ohne Schatten* heaps the kind of lush, orgasmic musical sensations upon its audience that only Richard Strauss could articulate and share with the world. The final twenty minutes of the score are pure jack-off material.

Swanee, How I Love Ya!

What was this fall's revival of *Lohengrin* like? For the most part, quite splendid. Under Wolfgang Weber's direction, Beni Montresor's pastel-hued production has aged remarkably well and, with Sir Charles Mackerras on the podium, Wagner's score got the royal treatment it deserved. Although illness plagued some of the principals during the run, the cast was in relatively good vocal condition at the performance I attended.

As fate would have it, I was present when Meredith Mizell (who was covering the role of Elsa) made an unexpected San Francisco opera debut after soprano MariAnne Haggander took ill. Considering the circumstances, Mizell acquitted herself handsomely.

When Haggander returned to the role several nights later, the popular Scandinavian artist with her brought a much deeper characterization backed by some solid singing. A major disappointment, however, was Eva Randova's Ortud, which lacked volume, stage presence and seemed downright anemic. Compared to such wonderfully evil Otruds as Leonie Rysanek and Eva Marton, Miss Randova was a rather wimpy villainess.

Tenor Paul Frey's *Lohengrin* boasted a heroic, fairy-tale appeal while managing to negotiate the difficult tessitura of Wagner's protagonist; bass Siegfried Vogel gave a sonorous performance as King Henry.

Theodore Baerg boomed his way through most of the Herald's music, leaving top honors for musicianship among the male principals to Sergei Leiferkus, whose portrayal of the misguided Freidrich von Telramund was one of the finest I've encountered in my life.

The Shadow of Your Style

Without any doubt, a high point of the recent San Francisco season was the revival of *Die Frau Ohne Schatten*, in which a potent combination of Thomas J. Munn's acutely sensitive lighting and Jorg Zimmerman's magical sets catapulted Strauss's opera into a fantasy kingdom rivaling the best in the science fiction literature.

I was less thrilled with Jan Skaliky's new costumes, which made the final scene look as if the Emperor, Empress, Barak and the Dyer's wife could only af-

ford to walk through Strauss's realm of phantasmagoria in their nightgowns. And I should confess that, after hiding behind the fantasy of Hugo von Hofmannsthal's libretto for two decades, it was a shock to be brought to earth by the forcefulness of Christopher Bergen's supertitles (which stress the Nurse's intentions to protect the purity of an Aryan race from being corrupted with the blood of ape-like mortals).

With the exception of William John's throaty Emperor and Mary Jane Johnson's tentatively sung Kaiserin (which will grow and mature with repeated performances), this revival of *Die Frau Ohne Schatten* had one of the strongest casts in recent history. Anja Silja's nurse proved to be a powerhouse of a sorceress, delivering a performance of incredible conviction and lucidity.

Gwyneth Jones's portrayal of the Dyer's wife revealed a major

artist who, having conquered some severe vocal problems, seemed miraculously reborn. The sudden strength and surety of the Welsh soprano's singing were astonishing to those who, only two years ago, fastened their seatbelts and held on for dear life as they went tobogganing through her vibrato.

Making an auspicious American debut, Albert Muff was an intensely compassionate Barak who revealed a powerful voice and stage presence. Smaller contributions came from Monte Pederson as the Spirit Messenger, Patricia Racette as the Voice of the Falcon, and Patricia Spence as a solo alto voice.

A great conductor can inspire solid playing from an ensemble and, from start to finish, Christoph von Dohnanyi shaped the performance with a rare passion, intelligence and drive. With Maestros Mackerras and von Dohnanyi dominating the German repertoire this fall, the San Francisco Opera took several giant steps toward improving the overall quality of its artistic product.

And it's about time, too! ▼



Marianne Haeggander, Paul Frey in *Lohengrin*.

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WRING OUT THE OLD; RING IN THE NEW



Santa Claus dropped in on the Eagle's Christmas party last Thursday night to say hello to Wallace. (Photo: Marcus)

The best news I got last week and the flawlessly wonderful thing about it is that it concerns the leather/SM community. Late last week, John Ferrari, apparently the spokesperson for Desmodus, Inc. (*Drummer Magazine*), announced that after all the accounting had been finished, the net proceeds from the Mr. Drummer Finals is \$9400. This amount will be distributed to the stated beneficiaries, i.e., the AIDS Emergency Fund, Shanti Project, the Names Project and Gay Games III. The actual presentation date was not available to me at my deadline, but rest assured, it will be duly noted in the press.

There are a lot of people to thank for this final figure; most of all, again, all who put the Mr. Drummer Finals together. All the contestants not only helped raise

that money, but they really put themselves out throughout Leather Pride Week by participating in all the events of the days preceding the actual finals. It is a fitting flourish for the end of a productive year—a year which saw leather men and women walk tall with pride for all their efforts. The San Francisco Eagle bar calculated that through 1989, the total amount of money raised mainly at the Sunday beer busts and other days/nights with benefits, totaled \$1 million! Often, when the proceeds of an event weren't what the organizers expected, the management was generous enough to donate the beer. And not just for leather-oriented fundraisers.

The past year also saw the creation of the Leather Pride Flag; it was introduced to the world onstage at the International Mr.

Leather Contest in Chicago by Tony DeBlase of *Drummer Magazine* last May. Now, virtually all over the world, the little black, blue and white striped pin emblazoned with a red heart, is everywhere—flags, banners, posters.

There can be no doubt in anyone's mind that the leather community has taken a leadership position in loving, caring and sharing. In the waning days of his year as Intl. Mr. Leather '89, Michael Pereyra criss-crossed the country (and Canada) for fundraising events. He is still much in demand and he is still traveling to help those who ask for it. His successor, Guy Baldwin, is deep in the throes of traveling and not only helping raise money, but lecturing in cogent detail about the leather/SM lifestyle. The new Mr. Drummer, Brian Dawson, is on a



Santa Claus said he digs leather men the most. (Photo: Marcus)



Santa likes leather women, too. Here with Sharon Viola.

(Photo: Marcus)

hectic schedule already with plans for a big fundraiser in Los Angeles during Gay Pride week.

On the homefront, look at all the little fundraisers put together by our local leathermen: Mr. Bear Leather John Caldera, leather/uniform maven Michael Chase; Mr. Leather of San Francisco Peter Austin, and Mr. No. Calif. Drummer Steve Patten during Leather Pride Week. While many of the projects didn't attract big crowds, money was raised!

In Omaha, Dustin Logan helped raise the consciousness not only of his city's leathermen, but he aroused interest in surrounding Iowa, Oklahoma, Kansas and Missouri. He was just named Leatherman of the Year by *The Leather Journal* magazine for his successfully executed Leatherfest '89 last summer. Besides being Mr. Gay Nebraska, and Mr. Great Plains Drummer, Dustin competed at IML in Chicago last May. So thorough was his ability to get to know all his fellow contestants, not one refused to come to Omaha for his efforts.

And it hasn't been easy for everyone. Even now in Hawaii, the current Mr. Leather Hawaii Michael Hansen is experiencing vicious attacks from within his own community over some asinine legal problems generated by his own local leather malcontents. Michael's efforts to bring pride to leather in that far-flung Pacific rim community are being sabotaged by one of gay life's most evil manifestations—jealousy!

I could go on, state by state, enumerating all the leadership highs of Mr. This State and Mr. That City, but I think you're getting the message. With all due respect to the efforts of non-leather men and women, it's safe to say that the leather/SM community has done *more* than its share. Leather leadership is absolutely apparent.

So when you look at the names of the leather people involved who have been activists throughout this crisis we're in, it's safe to say that they wear that little Leather Pride pin because they have a right to; they're entitled to; they're dedicated and they're "together." In their heads and in their efforts. Gentlemen, take a bow: Alan Selby, Terry Thompson, Zach Long, Michael Chase, Peter Austin, John Caldera, Darrell Yee, Eric Rofes, Mark Lagasse, Ed Gabet, Jim Cvitanich, John Dopp, Jerry Roberts, Tom Rodgers, David Stoll, Steve Patten, George Burgess, Rick Booth, Hank Cook, Tony DeBlase and all those bike clubs who sponsored an AIDS benefit; and lets hear it for Trax and the bowling people; the End-up, I-Beam, My Place, Watering

Hole, Powerhouse, Eagle, the Oasis, the Mint, the Bear, Uncle Bert's, the Pool Association and the jocks; let's also hear it for PAWS, The Names Project, AIDS Emergency Fund, Shanti Project and all the women who donated blood; the Cable Car Awards and the APEX Awards, the Community Awards; Coming Home Hospice and MCC Church. Let's also hear it for Mark I. Chester and his '89 Sketch Class raising \$400 just last week for the AEF, and yes, even ACT UP who number a few leathermen in their ranks.

While AIDS service organizations may be the chief beneficiaries of your support and largesse, other needs in our community are being recognized and supported. There are so many, many people to thank. The Pennies Project and the National Leather Association Earthquake Relief Fund (almost every penny came from leather communities in cities far from here! If I left anyone out, it's not deliberate. Know that your efforts are appreciated. Your support is welcome and your input and ideas are always open for consideration.

The year 1989 is a mixture of sadness and pride. Sadness for all our departed friends and pride that we know we can go to the front lines and raise the money

our brothers need. You are a beautiful community. May the year 1990 and the succeeding years be brighter and less debilitating to your morale. The infrequent reports that a life-prolonging drug is successful and the

underfunded research looking for a cure continues. Those surges of hope you get in your heart are a part of your life now. The 90's just *have* to be better. I don't even want to speculate that the next decade will be dismal. I know we can take it, I know this community will meet the challenges as they always have in the past. You know it too.

★ ★ ★

Besides the hunks appearing at the I-Beam and the Dreamland parties, there's "Decade" by William Roderick Associates at the Giftcenter Pavilion on New Year's Eve. It's a benefit for the AIDS Emergency Fund. Tickets are \$30 advance, \$35 at the door. Fred Kelly flies in to spin from London where he reigns supreme as the celebrated DJ both at Bromptons and Heaven.

"Crew," the hot dance conglomeration titles their New Year's party "1990 Brave New Year" at 1015 Folsom (the new 1015 Club). It's the Big Boy Bash for only \$15 and that includes champagne, an all-new slide and film presentation, balloon drop, party favors, a VIP Lounge and breakfast! The Inter-Club Fund will host the beer bust at the Eagle on Sunday, Dec. 31 from

1500-1800. Check it out if you need a "primer" before the night's final blowout.

★ ★ ★

Things to look forward to in January: If you're a cable subscriber and you get *Showtime* get some blank tapes. *Torch Song Trilogy* will be showing sometime in January (hopefully, more than once). Theatre Rhino is bringing back to its stage on Jan. 13 (through Feb. 12), Mart Crowley's celebrated *Boys In The Band*.

Tatiana's First Saturday drag show is at Kimo's on Jan 6; Golden Gate Guards' weekend run to Yosemite is Jan. 26-28; Mr. Mid-Atlantic Leather Contest in Washington, D.C. is the weekend of Jan. 12-14; SF Jacks first party of the decade is on Monday, Jan. 8.

★ ★ ★

Add to your list for New Year's Eve: The Rescue Mission is feeding the needy from 1900 hours to Midnight. Funded by the **San Francisco Foundation** this will hopefully be an ongoing feed, especially on holidays when most of the soup kitchens are closed. They'll also feed the needy on Martin Luther King Day. On New Year's Day, Jan. 1, the Mission will also have a free dinner at 1700

(Continued on next page)

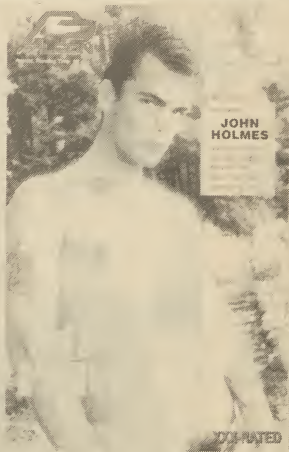


Why Santa, I didn't know you cared!

(Photo: Marcus)

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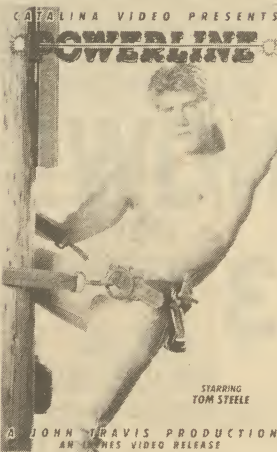
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VIDEO

Some Highs, But More Lows in '89

by Mark Johnson

There have been some real highs in the quality of videos this year, but the lows have outnumbered them by nine to one. The year was marked by the release by Vivid Video of a string of films with some of the best packaging on the market. Unfortunately, the films with only a couple of exceptions have not lived up to their packaging.

Falcon and Catalina have lead the way in the production of excellent films, with state of the art videography and sound offering the best direction and a host of this year's hottest models. The difference between these filmmakers and the rest is the difference between a Broadway show and a high school play.

There is almost no middle ground, either the film companies have made an investment in quality, or (in most cases) they've gotten in and out for the quick buck.

Take for instance the long awaited return of Jeff Stryker in his production of himself, *Powerful II*. Jeff becomes the Jerry Lewis of the male porn film by trying to write, produce, direct and star in his own product. He has neither the time nor experience to pull this off in a satisfying way and should seek some help in order to live up to the quality we have always expected from him.

Here is my list of the best of 1989:

1. *Head of the Class: Part II*, Catalina. An exceptionally large



Domino—one of Falcon's new stars for the nineties in their new release *Manrammer*.

and handsome class makes this film even better than the original. Three pairings which end the film is the hottest scene on film

this year.

2. *Crusin': Men on the Make*, Falcon. Here is how good gay male films can be, everything is thought out from beginning to end and the sex is a treat for the eyes.

3. *Manrammer*, Falcon. Rex Chandler comes in to his own. Dick Masters proves that enough is never too much, the look is a feast.

4. *Powerline*, Catalina. A story that makes sense, hot men and high energy. Eric Manchester is at his very best and some new stars are made.

5. *Undercover*, Catalina. Tom Steele and Doug Niles are mightily matched, as soon as they get a dialogue coach they'll have everything.

6. *Pledgemasters*, Falcon. Will take you back to your college days, the way you wish they could

(Continued on next page)



Rex Chandler and Brad Philips star in the Falcon production of *Deep In Hot Water*.

Marcus

(Continued from previous page)

hours. The Gay Rescue Mission is at 1080 Folsom and to the San Francisco Foundation—thank you! Keep up the great work.

★ ★ ★

Hey, it's been a long, long year. Go out and celebrate this weekend or next; live it up; laugh it up. Be sane and safe! Give a stranger (or two) a hug. Keep your New Year resolutions. Pledge to do at least one notable volunteer act in 1990. Make sure you're wearing your leather when you do all of the above. ▼

MENⁱⁿ LOVE
are coming



Santa congratulated Mr. June 1990 Bare Chest winner John Dopp for selling nearly 500 calendars. (Photo: Marcus)

(Continued from previous page)

have been, here is Mike Gregory living up to all your fantasies.

7. *Island Fever*, Sarava Productions. The best that South America has to offer. The men are brown, beautiful and loving every minute.

8. *Deep In Hot Water*, Falcon. This hot tub is filled with toys, a Christmas delight for Danny Brown and Brad Mitchell, Rex Chandler and Cal Jensen are stunning.

9. *Plunge*, Falcon. The steam from this one is enough to heat the pool for days. The cast features 1990's new stars.

10. *Gridiron*, Vivid. After a string of disappointing product, Vivid finally turns out one worth watching. Is this a trend, or a fluke?

And the worst:

1. *Rites of Spring*, Vivid
2. *Rites of Fall*, Vivid
3. *Rites of Winter*, Vivid
4. *Davey and the Cruisers*, Vivid

NOTE: Falcon videos are available by mail or phone order.

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Christmas Tree Recycling Offered

On Sundays, Dec. 31 and Jan. 7, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., residents can bring unwanted Christmas trees to the following sites and receive a free seedling: at the entrance to Fort Mason Center; Herbst Road, beyond the South Gate of the San Francisco Zoo; Richmond Environment Action, (249 Anza near Collins); and Golden Gate Disposal Company (900 7th St. on Berry); and Haight Ashbury Recycling Center (780 Frederick at Arguello).

Volunteers from the city's recycling program and the San Francisco Conservation Corps will be there to accept the trees.

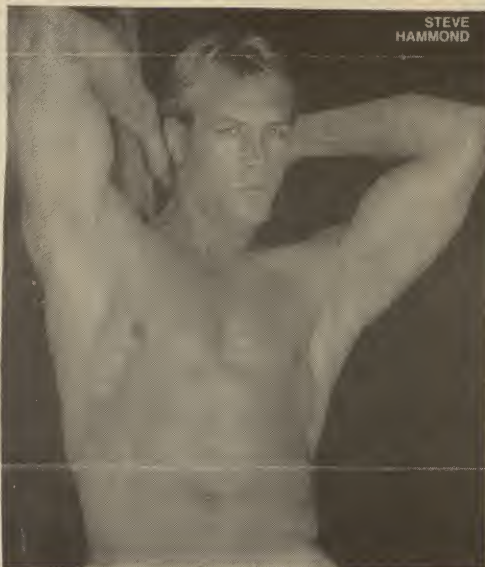
The San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department and the San Francisco League of Urban Gardeners will be using chips from trees for mulch in urban gardens. Chips that are not used for mulch will be burned as fuel.

For Christmas tree recycling at other times, Sanitary Fill Company and L&K Debris Box Company, 1313 Armstrong St., will accept trees during business hours.

For those who do not wish to recycle, Golden Gate Disposal Company and Sunset Scavengers will pick up the trees free of charge on regular garbage collection days when they are left next to residents' trash cans. Unfortunately, the trees must then be transported 63 miles to the Altamont landfill, a waste of valuable natural resources and landfill space.

Tree recyclers should be sure to remove all nails and decorations from their trees. It is important that trees be left only during the designated hours.

For more information on Treecycle and other ways to recycle, residents may call the San Francisco Recycling program at 554-6193. ▼



STEVE HAMMOND

Steve Hammond is the star in *Pledgemasters*, again from Falcon.

5. *Cocktales*, Jocks
6. *Acapulco Dreamin'*, Vivid
7. *Mannequin Man*, Vivid
8. *Team Mates*, In Hand
9. *From Maui With Love*, Vivid
10. *The River*, Vivid

I hope this column has helped you wade through this bull video market. I'd like to thank those of you who have taken time to write in your comments, which are always welcome. Have a great new year. ▼



Joey Stefano—another of Falcon's new stars for the nineties—in their newest release *Plunge*.

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THIS

SUNDAY 31



• **I Think It's Going To Work Out Fine:** A rock 'n' roll fable in shades of Ike & Tina Turner. Featuring Rhodessa Jones & Idris Ackamoor. Dec. 27-30, 8 p.m. \$10. Lorraine Hansberry Theatre, 620 Sutter/Mason. BASS, STBS or call 474-8800.

FRIDAY 29

- **Firehouse 7:** The hottest dance music in town. DJ dancing with Carol Bever. 9 p.m. FREE. 3160 16th St., SF. 621-1617.
- **The Little Theatre Chorus:** Presents a concert of hit musicals featured by the theatre in the last decade. Dec. 29 & 30, 8 p.m.; Dec. 31, 2 p.m. \$6. Little Theatre, 2231 N. 3rd St., Hayward. 881-6777.
- **As Is:** A play confronting AIDS by William M. Hoffman has its Fresno premiere. Dec. 29 & 30, 8 p.m.; Jan. 3-6, 8 p.m.; Jan. 7, 2 p.m. \$3.75 adv., \$5 at door. Wahlberg Recital Hall, CSU Fresno. (209) 229-3855.
- **Congregation Sha'ar Zahav:** Chanukah Seventh Day. 7:30 p.m. children's service. 8:15 p.m. service. 220 Danvers/Caselli, SF. 861-6932.
- **Gay Men's Group Oil Massage:** Arrive by 7:30 p.m. at 552-B Castro. \$10. Call Bruce, 626-2026.
- **Living Well With AIDS/ARC:** Support group based on Attitudinal Healing Principles. 1-3 p.m. & 7-9 p.m. Rest Stop, 134 Church. Call 621-REST.
- **SF Hotshots Men's Gay Basketball:** All levels welcome. 1525 Waller St. 6:30-9 p.m. Tony Jasinski, 621-2710.
- **Social Gathering:** for the supporters of Kairos House, 114 Douglass, 5-7 p.m. Information: 861-0877.

SATURDAY 30

- **1-Beam:** High Energy & House Music Saturdays. \$5, free w/pass. 9 p.m.-2 a.m. Tea Dance Sundays, \$5, free 5-9 p.m. w/pass. 1748 Haight. 668-6023.
- **Firehouse 7:** Dance at the Atomic Cafe. 9 p.m. FREE. The hottest dance music in town. 3160 16th St. 621-1617.
- **Winter Ball:** A clean & sober event for lesbian, gay and bisexual youth under 25. A semiformal dance. 6:30-11:30 p.m. \$4. Women's Bldg, 3543 18th St. 531-4612.
- **Let Your Hair Down With Marlena & Inga:** Get ready for the new decade with a great show and no cover. 9:30 p.m. The Mint, 1942 Market/Duboce. 626-4726.
- **Art Lovers Outing:** An afternoon of art, relaxation and informal socializing. Meet inside Museum of Modern Art entrance, Van Ness & McAllister, at 1 p.m. Museum fee: \$3.50. Call Ken Rackow, 626-3368.
- **Congregation Sha'ar Zahav:** Chanukah Eighth Day. 10:30 a.m., morning services at 220 Danvers/Caselli, 861-6932. 7 p.m., Chanukah party at the Unitarian Center.
- **Women's Clinic:** Call at 8:30 a.m. for same day appointment. Pap smears, STD, bladder and pregnancy testing. Health care by and for women. Berkeley Free Clinic, 548-2570.
- **SF Wrestling Club:** Workouts every other Saturday, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. All forms, styles of wrestling; all ages, weights, levels welcome. Call 538-8490 or 821-9721.
- **Art Class:** Exploring AIDS/ARC issues through creativity. FREE. Noon-4 p.m. Game Night, social mixer for PWA/PWARC/PWHIVs, 7-11 p.m. Rest Stop, 134 Church, 621-REST.
- **Reiki Treatments:** A clothes-on physical work which touches the body and nurtures the being. For persons with AIDS/ARC/HIV+. FREE. For appointment call 621-REST.
- **Recovery: Finding & Healing the Self:** A healing group for gay men dealing with recovery issues. John Acevedo, MSW, facilitator. Open group, no appointment needed. FREE (donations welcome). Saturdays, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Arrive on time—no admittance during Visualizations or Rituals. Min. of 3 days clean & sober is suggested. 18th Street Services, 217 Church St. Call 861-4898 for more information.

• **McKnight Toasts New Years:** Join SF's sensational Sharon McKnight and Friends in ringing in the New Year. 8:30 p.m. doors, 9:45 p.m. show. \$40 includes champagne & party favors. Great American Music Hall, 853 O'Farrell. 885-0750.

• **CREW's Big Boy Bash New Year's Eve Extravaganza:** An all-night marathon dance party with live dancers, champagne, balloon drop, party favors & complimentary breakfast. 9 p.m. with after hours dancing. \$15. NEW location: 1015 Folsom near 6th St.

• **DECADE!** Non-stop dancing at the GiftCenter Pavilion from 9 p.m. to 4 a.m. with London DJ Fred Kelly and HiNRG recording artist Ernest Kohl. \$35 at door, \$30 adv. at All Am. Boy, G.W. Finley, Jaguar Books, New York Man & Ticketron. 563-0176. Benefits AIDS Emergency Fund.

• **New Year's Eve at The Kennel Club:** Celebrate with the beat of Africa & Jamaica! Live drumming and dancing by Creed Senegalese dance company. DJ Doug Wendt. 9 p.m. \$6. 628 Divisadero. 931-1914.

• **"Do Not Sit On The Furniture" New Year's Eve Fashion/Dance Party:** Innuendo with DJ Tom Sibley, live style installations, cool fashion show, live entertainment and a peek at Century 2000! 9 p.m.-4 a.m. \$25 at door or American Rag, 1355 Bush/Polk. SF Furniture Mart, 875 Stevenson/10th. 398-8412.

• **New Year's Eve at Life On The Water:** Break into the '90s with Dr. Loco and His Rockin' Jalapeno Band playing soul, salsa, tropical & rock! Also, the hot new comedy troupe Culture Clash. 9 p.m. \$7 gen., \$5 students w/I.D. at Bldg B, Fort Mason Center, SF. Call 776-8999.

• **New Year's Eve at The Mint:** Starring Cabaret Gold Awards winner Mikio Hirata & friends. 9:30 p.m. \$4 and 2 drink min. benefits Shanti. 1942 Market/Duboce. 626-4726.

• **New Year's Eve Comedy Showcase Party!** Morty's, 1024 Kearny St. 986-MORT.

• **Women's New Year's Dance:** Celebrate with women, DJ music, munchies, door prizes and more! 8:00 p.m. \$4-8. Sisterspirit! Women's Bookstore/Coffeehouse, 1040 Park Ave., San Jose. (408) 293-9372.

• **F/X: The Sneak Preview:** The Pussycat Theatre has been creatively transformed into a wild new dance emporium and will feature modern rock dancing and live performance artists. 10 p.m. \$15, 21+, 400 S. First St., San Jose. (408) 947-5965.

• **New Year's Eve with The Psychedelic Furs & East Of Eden:** 9 p.m. \$25, 762-BASS. Berkeley Community Center.

• **Western Roundup New Year's Eve Dance:** A clean & sober event benefits Living Sober '90. 9:30 p.m.-1 a.m. \$6-12. Childcare & wheelchair access. First Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin. Call David, 861-3761, or Rose, 931-7462.

• **Girth & Mirth Club New Year's Eve Costume Party:** Members and friends are invited to a FREE event with a lot of drinks, munchies, music and dancing. 50/50 raffle and drawing for a free year membership. Don't forget the costume! 9 p.m.-1 a.m. 176 Page St., SF. 820-2597.

• **Bay Area Bisexual Network New Year's Bash:** Say Good-Bi to '89 and make a resolution to join the Bi community. Castro. BYOB and snack to share. Call Naomi, 553-7725.

• **Belle Reve Bowling League:** Celebrate the birthday of president Stanley Kowalski and Marc Huestis. 3-6 p.m. Park Bowl, 1885 Haight. RSVP: 863-2098.



• **The 1-Beam's New Year's Eve Fantasy Extravaganza—DECADE!** FREE tea dance 5-9 p.m. The festivities all start at 9 p.m. with a live telecast of the countdown in Times Square, NYC, smash-hit recording artist Ms. E.G. Daily and sexy men Ace, Tony and Stephan. \$10, 9 p.m.-dawn with any 1-Beam pass; \$15 general. 1748 Haight. 668-6023.

WEEK

- **Women's Social for Older Lesbians (60+) & Friends:** Join us for music, dancing, pool, table games and refreshments. 2-5 p.m. St. Francis of Assisi, 145 Guerrero, SF. Call 626-7000.
- **New Year's Eve Healing Service:** Featuring the Worship and Praise Choir. 7 p.m. MCC, 150 Eureka. 863-4434.
- **Dignity:** Liturgy for gay/lesbian Catholics and friends at 5:30 p.m. at Dolores St. Community Cntr, 15th St. & Dolores. Call 255-9244.
- **Integrity:** Eucharist for the gathering community, 5:30 p.m. St. John's Episcopal Church, 1661 15th St./Valencia. Call 553-5270.
- **SF MCC:** services, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 9 and 11 a.m. (with childcare and signing for the hearing-impaired) and 7 p.m. Call 863-4434.

MONDAY 1

- **Soviet Acrobatic Circus:** In its first US tour under the direction of Uryi Zamyatin, former lead dancer with the Moiseyev Dance Ensemble. Dec. 1-7. \$20-22, \$4 children. Marines Memorial Theatre, 609 Sutter, 771-6900.
- **Empower Your Visions of the Decade with Margo Adair:** Join her in visualization and meditation circles. Sliding scale fee. Pre-registration: 861-6838.
- **Animal Mondays at Club St. John:** Male erotic dancing with Lucy Manhattan. No cover. 10 p.m. 170 W. St. John St., San Jose. (408)947-1667.
- **Springboard Diving Class & Training:** beginner thru advanced. Info/reg.: Bob Murphy, 552-0820, or Leslie King, 666-6820. Mon & Wed, 7 p.m.; Tues & Thu, 3:30 p.m.
- **Co-Dependent No More Support Group:** facilitated by Bob Pettyman. 7-8:30 p.m. Kairos House, 114 Douglass St.
- **HIV+ Spiritual Support Group:** weekly, SF MCC, 150 Eureka. Call: 863-4434.
- **Support Groups for PWA and Those Concerned About AIDS:** Ongoing meeting, Kaiser Foundation Hospital, 2425 Geary Blvd., 3:30-4:45 p.m. The meetings will be held in Conference Room B on the fifth floor. Call 929-4186 for details.

TUESDAY 2

- **Brett Reichman Paintings:** Wild surrealist paintings! Thru Jan. 12. Fobbo Gallery & Think Tank, 149 Gough. 255-9313.
- **Winter Exhibition:** Figurative sculpture by Junki Yamamoto and surreal etchings by Mary Skocilich. SFSU, Student Union Art Gallery. Thru Jan 18. 338-2580.
- **Sonoma County Bisupport:** A peer support group for bisexual people of all ages and colors. Discuss bisexual issues, coming out bi and integrating our lifestyles in a safe, confidential and friendly environment. 7 p.m. Call Michael, (707)545-9325.
- **Registration for New College of California Humanities Program:** Open House & Orientation, 6 p.m., 777 Valencia St. with complimentary Middle Eastern buffet. Register Jan. 2-5, at 50 Fell St.; late registration until Jan. 18; classes begin Jan. 8.
- **Phallic Church:** Good Resolutions Party. Bring a buddy! 8-11 p.m. Males 18+. Call 621-1887.
- **Lesbian Psychotherapy Group:** ongoing, Tue. evenings, 5:30-7 p.m. Operation Concern, 1853 Market, SF 94103. Call 626-7000 for info & intake appointment.
- **Ministry of Light:** Gay men's support group, 8-9:30 p.m., 1000 Sir Francis Drake Blvd., Rm. 18, San Anselmo. Call: 457-0854 or 457-1115.
- **Asian Gay Men's Support Group:** The Pacific Center, 2712 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley, 6:30-8 p.m. Call: 548-8283.
- **Co-Dependency Group:** For caregivers, Kairos House, 114 Douglass St., S.F., 7:30-8:30 p.m. Led by Steve Graham.
- **Gay Male Drop-in Group for Alcohol/Substance Abuse and HIV Concerns:** Individual and group process available. 7-9 p.m. at Operation Concern/Recovery, 1853 Market. For intake appointment call 626-7000.
- **Evening Group Orientation:** For people with AIDS or ARC, San Francisco AIDS Foundation, 25 Van Ness, suite 660, S.F., FREE. Also on Wednesdays, 11 a.m. Assistance in interpreting financial benefit systems, applying for government assistance programs, and information on social service agencies and discounts available. Reservations: 864-4376.

WEDNESDAY 3

- **Adventures in Posing:** An avant-retrospective of Philip-Dimitri Galas' work. Jan 3-Feb. 4, Thu.-Sun., 8 p.m. \$13 at box office & STBS. Climate Theatre, 252 9th St./Folsom. Call 626-9196.

- **Victoria Williams & Guests:** Benefits the Acoustic Music Project with proceeds benefitting Project Open Hand. 10 p.m. Kennel Club, 628 Divisadero. 931-1914.
- **Photographer Garry Winogrand:** The groundbreaking series of photographs of the Central Park Zoo in the early '60s, known collectively as *The Animals*, are on view thru Jan. 27. Fraenkel Gallery, 55 Grant Ave.
- **Wednesday Matinee:** A lively afternoon of movies, discussion & refreshments. FREE. 2:15-4 p.m. North of Market Senior Services, 333 Turk, SF. Call 626-7000.
- **Shanti Volunteer Opportunities Meeting:** Find out how you can help Shanti and PWA/PWARCs and their loved ones by talking with current volunteers. Open to Bay Area residents considering volunteer experience. FREE. 7-8:30 p.m. Shanti, 525 Howard. Call Mike or Ali, 777-2273.
- **Freedom Day Parade and Celebration Committee:** Float/march subcommittee, 7 p.m. 1519 Mission. 864-FREE.
- **Castro Lion's Club:** Arel Wentz, of Wentz Vineyards and Winery, will discuss wine production, wine appreciation and the history of her family's winery, one of the oldest in California. 6:30 p.m. \$10 optional dinner. Cafe du Nord, 2170 Market. Lion Bill Rowe, 824-0535.
- **New Alliance Party:** Monthly meeting every first Wednesday of the month. 75 Gough, suite 15. Call 558-0442.
- **Female Trouble:** 9 p.m.-2 a.m. \$2 & 50 cent draft before 10 p.m. 1821 Haight.
- **Hyena, a new dance club:** At 6th & Harrison with live entertainment every week. 9 p.m.-2 a.m. \$2.
- **East Bay Figure Drawing Class:** Wednesday evenings, 7-10 p.m. Located in the Jack London Square produce market just four blocks from Lake Merritt BART station. Reservations/info call 465-7382.
- **AIDS & HIV Drop-in Group for Asians & Pacific Islanders:** Wednesdays, 6-7:30 p.m. FREE. Asian AIDS Project, 300 4th St./Folsom, Suite 401. Call 227-0946.
- **Art Class:** Exploring AIDS/ARC issues through creativity. FREE. 7-9 p.m. Rest Stop, 134 Church. 621-REST.
- **Finding Love All Minds Enlightened (FLAME):** Healing meditation 6:30 p.m., fellowship 7:30 p.m. 1853 15th St./Ramona (btwn Dolores & Guerrero). 566-4122.



• **The Dickies at the I-Beam:** With Maximillion's Motorcycle Club, White Trash Debutantes. Fri., Dec. 29. 10 p.m. \$8 adv. 1748 Haight, SF. Call 668-6023.

THURSDAY 4

- **San Francisco Symphony:** Performs works by Dutilleul, Takemitsu and Stravinsky. Geraldine Walther, viola; Kent Nagano, conductor. 6:44-2 p.m. Davies Symphony Hall. Call 431-5400.
- **Belize:** A photographic exhibition by Dennis Olanzo Callwood. Thru Feb. 10. Reception tonight: 5:30-7:30 p.m. Meridian Gallery, 545 Sutter. 398-7229.
- **Wet Jockey Shorts Contest at The Endup:** With Danny Williams & guests. \$25-100 in prizes. 10 p.m. \$3. 6th & Harrison, SF.
- **The Search for Mr. January:** All contestants for Mr. January 1991 for the Bare Chest Calendar. \$100 cash prize. 10 p.m. SF Eagle, Harrison/12th St.
- **New Beach Paintings By Robert Morgan:** On exhibit at Sweet Inspiration cafe, 2239 Market/Sanchez. Thru Jan. 15. Robert, 885-0851, for info.
- **Native American Art & Culture Series:** Polly Schaafsma discusses rock art symbolism. \$3-5. 7:30 p.m. California Academy of Sciences, Music Concourse, GG Park. 750-7142.
- **Millennium Party at The Hole:** Exercise your love and introduce a buddy to Phallicism. Love feast 8-11 p.m. Males 18+. 746 Clementina. Call 621-1887.
- **PWA Pals:** For those looking for a meaningful relationship within the AIDS Crisis. Ad hoc organizing needed! Do you want to put together a bowling team, museum tour, opera outing or just socialize? Open to suggestions. Write or call Jim: 2966 Diamond St., Apt. 228, SF 94131 or 469-4886.
- **HIV Support Group for Gay Asian/Pacific Men & Their Partners:** Meets every Thu., 5:30-7 p.m. A pre-group screening is requested. Contact facilitators: Kiki Ching, LCSW-Team II, 558-2551/2507; Joji Yoshimura, PhD. Psychologist, 474-7310.
- **Community United Against Violence:** Support Groups for Domestic Violence Battered Gay Males. Evenings. Free. 514 Castro. Call 864-3112 for info.

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What is sleaze? Can anybody give an exact definition? Where does it take over from "erotic" and "raunchy"? How does it differ from "dirty"? How does it work?

Well, the best answer is probably that sleaze is a state of mind. It doesn't just consist of erotic tonguings and smeared make-up. It's about attitudes not accessories.

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BOOKS

ANSWERS in the HEART



Answers for Addicts

Answers In The Heart: Daily Meditations for Men & Women Recovering from Sex Addiction
by The Hazelden Foundation; Harper & Row Paperback; \$7.95.

by Frank Howell

"We are male and female, we are married, single, heterosexual, homosexual. We have used pornography, had affairs, fantasized, cruised, abused our sexuality and broken the law... we have a name for what we've experienced: sex addiction."

Sex addiction is the latest taboo to leap out of the ever-widening closet. Many Americans are of the opinion that all gays suffer from sex addiction. But we know from research done by Kinsey and others that homosexuals possess erotic desires that stretch along the entire spectrum of human sexuality.

The 12-step program has been widely adapted to many habit-forming behaviors ranging from gambling to drugs. But the approach when applied to "sex addiction" can be tricky. When is one sexually obsessed? After a few drinks, a few trips to the baths or one exotic adventure per night?

A program to alleviate an overabundance of desire may be helpful to some people, but it can

also be an invitation to social puritanism of an especially evil sort. An unqualified therapist can be tempted to impose a regime of repressive social dogma on the unsuspecting. Group pressure can be especially troublesome. Lifetime chastity or rigid heterosexual orthodoxy may be extolled as the only answer.

The Hazelden Foundation has brought together a series of meditations for each day of the year. These little essays are written by former sex addicts.

It is hard to detect from reading these selections whether homophobia lurks behind the loving smiles of former sexaholics. We don't even know to what extent victims are helped by those types of recovery programs. Research on the issue is just beginning.

Each meditation is, however, thoughtfully written, and the quotations are well chosen. An index to the emotions discussed in the book's pages is also included.

Train

(Continued from page 28)

clerk, and Cinque Lee as an addeheaded bellhop), two more long takes—one in which Mitsuko attempts to cheer her boyfriend (who may or may not need cheering up) and another during which the two make love, conveys the tentative, youthful quality of their relationship.

The Japanese couple are more interesting than the characters in the film's other two segments. In the second segment, "A Ghost," Elvis appears at the Arcade Hotel to Luisa (Nicoletta Braschi), the new widow from Italy who's earlier met a guy with a message for her from Elvis. Luisa is sharing a room with Dee Dee, who's just left her husband (the British factory worker of the third part).

The film sags during this section, although several funny bits, including a couple of great ones from the restrained but ebullient Hawkins, save it from ruin. Dee Dee is a textbook chatterbox—not much original from her, and the climax to Luisa's story is anticlimactic even on Jarmusch's terms.

Starting to Fall Apart

By the film's third part, featur-

ing Joe Strummer, as Dee Dee's forlorn, suicidal and finally homicidal husband, Johnny, things in Memphis have started to fall apart.

If the Memphis of the Japanese couple has been one of innocent fun mixed with mild disillusionment, and the city for Luisa and Dee Dee has been one of peculiar experience and missed opportunities, for Strummer, his friend Will and brother-in-law Charlie, it becomes bleakly, blackly nightmarish.

A mostly unmotivated murder is the centerpiece of this segment, which seems more improvised and less tightly constructed than the other two. Jarmusch's insight into pop culture, his knack for catchy phrases and the acting of the overwrought Charlie (Steve Buscemi) and angst-ridden Strummer keep things alive when the red herring of a plot goes awry.

In the end, *Mystery Train* doesn't so much resolve itself as simply leave town; the viewer is left to his or her own devices regarding any loose ends and the city of Memphis seems as elusive as ever. But this lack of resolution aside, after the train pulls out of the station, one can't help but look back fondly on the people it leaves behind.

BOOKS

Sharp Glances, Some Deep

The Freezer Counter
edited by David Rees and Peter Robins; Third House; \$8.95.

by Marv. Shaw

The great advantage a fresh anthology of gay stories has over a novel is the terrific variety. The reader has a rapid parade of differences march before him, each a piece that presents itself individually, working to imprint its insight on the memory. Rees and Robins have made a shrewd choice of 19 Britons here, almost all of whom give us something of gay male life we haven't seen before. Generally, the forms and styles are skillful and effective.

But with all the differences, a common factor holds most of them together: the time and place of Thatcherite Great Britain, with AIDS and a growing threat of institutionalized repression always a lowering backdrop.

Edwin Preece's title story, apt in its way for the collection, reminds us that Mr. Right, always looked for and sometimes meticulously planned for, will really probably pop up without search or plan. Joel Lane's "You

Don't Have to Stay" explores, with bitter drama, how wrenching life with Mr. Right can be once he is found.

Aging gays get much more attention here than usual. In editor Rees' "Prague Spring," an internationally famous pianist must struggle with the clinging memory of his dead lover and the tempting but puzzling attentions of a young Czech flutist. In Patrick Cox's "Old Men," a young painter, who is only marginally honest in his dealings, still sees sympathetically the torturing realities of a closeted but compulsively driven older man.

Probably the best of the lot is quite surprising for a gay story. Ian Hutson's "Straight Talk"

centers on two football teammates. A sister of one has the hots for the brother of the other, who has the awkward, angering task of trying to explain why such a

Of course ironies abound throughout, as is expected in brief fiction. Unfortunately, not all succeed. In "Mother Nature's Son" and "The Writing on the Wall," they are obvious and lame. But Patrick Gale puts a real and plausible sting into his "The Road to You."

Throughout, there is the clang of middle and working class in the U.K. today and how gay life fits or doesn't fit into it. But in one case, "Money," there doesn't seem to be any other point.

Rees has become pretty well known among American readers, but this volume is the introduction of most of the rest. From the general quality displayed here, several should achieve a following in the United States.

In Rees' "Prague Spring," a famous pianist struggles with the clinging memory of his dead lover.

pairing won't go. This one has both the punch of macho reality and the difficult sentiment of real brotherly affection. The irony is natural and powerful.

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Strong, Sensual, Young,
Handsome, Healing, Heaven!
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Thai Massage by Hot Thai Boy,
\$45/in, \$55/out, Xmas special,
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27 yrs, 5'9", 185lbs.
Classic V-shape. 46ch., 31w, 17ar,
solid, muscular legs, washboard
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A joyous spirit, loving heart, and
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Erotic massage—\$60 out
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is no exception! I'm a
well-built, very handsome
blond BB. \$40 in/out.
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Strong Yet Sensitive
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In • \$40
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Interact with body and mind, a pro-
fessional massage by an experienc-
ed masseur in a clean, comfortable
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\$45/1 hour • \$55/90 min.

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B.A.R. PEOPLE & PERSONALS

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ADVENTURESOME**
Built tight, muscular & hung.
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Even if you're a little shy
One-of-a-kind-Man
When you need a
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MASSAGE**



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Strong • Reliable • Personable • Excellence
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GREAT FOR SHY TYPES
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High quality
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ing muscular man. Student dis-
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When you want the best erotic
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ULTIMATE MAN'S
Massage available any time or
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Deep fullbody massage by
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LOADS OF ENERGY**

I can do what a man does best.
Handsome Man, 6'1", 205,
blonde, bisexual muscle magic,
big meat, intelligent.
Sensuous, Swedish massage.
I KNOW YOU KNEED IT
50/70 24hrs GREG
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massage in comfortable
Castro studio by sensitive,
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Models & Escorts



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VIRILE SEXY ITALIAN
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& athl legs. Vers, healthy,
yng, hung, tall Marine type.
Anytime. No BS.
Dan 753-8604

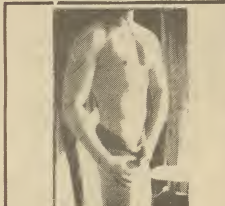
Yng Gdlkg Latino—150 lbs., 10"
thick, sexy, will squeeze you &
please you. Massage also,
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Hairy, beerbelly, brd, daddy bear
5'11", 225lbs, 39yrs, 995-4754 ES2

Real attractive, hot-looking
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HAVE GLOVES/TRAVEL
FF top, 15 yrs. exp, husky, \$70,
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Uninhibited Hunk
Rugged hndsm hunk with a solid
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23, 5'10", 160 lbs, blond hair,
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smooth, muscular, swimmer,
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ITALIAN DADDY
Hung and Hairy
239-8419

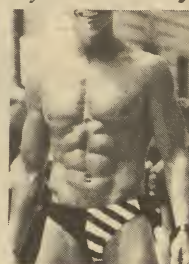
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For Satisfaction—PLUS!
Masseur & Escort
Silicon Valley Boy-Toy
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From Business Suit to Just Leather
Bow-Tie (or ...?), This Boy-Toy is
31, 5'11", 175, XXX—Hung—Cut, 42"
Muscular Hairy Pecs, Hot Hairless
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MASSEUR RATE \$50 first hour. Erotic
Full-Body Massage. Singles & couples
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masculine straight—looks

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Happy Holidays to all from
DAVID 929-7336
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Hot-Blooded Buddy
Hot young stud. Super Endowed.
Thick power tool.
Rock-hard body. Low hangers.
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239-8419



KEN • 928-5826 • \$100

**Competitive Titleholder
Bodybuilder**
26 yrs, 250#, 56"ch, 33" w, 20" arms
V-shape, X-hung, X-handsome
495-6345 or Bpr no. 764-9244 Dirk

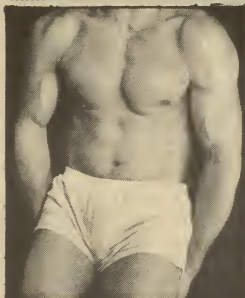


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JAY 255-9776

B.A.R. PEOPLE & PERSONALS

Models & Escorts



DAN
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Athletic Gymnast, 5'8", 150lbs.
leave msg Jeff 541-5617. E02

BEER-CAN SIZE
Lollipop on 6', 165# Santa, 24hr
callback 621-5635 E02

Hunky, married, 36, sm. endow.
nds attention, \$50, out only.
Pager 539-3914, enter yr. no + #. E00

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BLACK BODYBUILDER

25, 6', 235lbs, 53c, 19a, 30th.
Thick Beef.

What's your Fantasy?
In Bay Area 28 Dec.-17 Jan.
Available 24 Hours

DERRICK
(408) 427-4529

ATHLETE

5'11" 200LB SOLID
HANDSOME MASCULINE
CLEANCUT 27 YO
NOT LIKE THE REST

MIKE 621-4082 E01

HANDSOME BLOND
Tall, 6'3", smooth, slender, 20,
hung 7 1/2, always hot, prefer older
men. 342-6203. E02

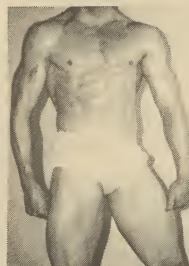
Two Hot Punks call anytime
995-4728 E02

ALL-AMERICAN

Handsome 25 y.o. Bodybuilder
brn/blue, 200+ ", 48" c,
32" w, 18" a, Friendly.
Description guaranteed.
KODI 821-2561

Models & Escorts

• WOLF •



Masculine • Blond • XXXHung

• 753-6539 •

EXPENSIVE AND WORTH IT

6' 175# Brn/Blu
Sexy V-Shaped Torso
Washboard / True 9x6
All on a Hot 'n Handsome
Man who's also Nice
MASSAGE INCLUDED
\$100 • 863-7399

Handsome Muscular Blond
PLEASURE GUY
Ron 863-3270 am/pm Discreet E02

Ask for B.J. 864-5483
HEAD MY WAY! \$40 E02

HUNG STUD

Thick and Big
GUS (415) 469-7221

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NEW ON THE BLOCK

Fun Loving Stud
Tanned Italian
V-Shaped Torso
NINE INCHER
KEITH
346-6505 \$85/\$90

RUSSIAN RIVER FUN!
For the top man who knows what
he wants (707) 869-9461 E02

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Tall Hairy Hung, a man for your
pleasure. call Big John 978-0163
night & day. E02

If you want a young one who is
smooth & slender

THIS BOY'S 4U
call Dave at 864-0670 E02

Private Indoor Heated Pool with
Two Hot Guys makes a Pleasure
Palace for your enjoyment.
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BLACK BOY
22, 155, 5'11", hairy ass, hung,
versatile, hot, \$70 in, Carl
441-1959 E02

Rick Donovan

Star of
The Bigger the Better • Giants
On Top • King Size, etc. etc.
TOP • SAFE • In/Out
26yrs, 5'11", 172lbs, 10 1/2"
621-5721
Private Party, Not an Agency

Models & Escorts

TOP FUN

Good looking, friendly stud
Extra thick—Extra hung!!!
Anthony \$80.
864-6436

HUNKY SWED
Handsome, Hung, Tall, Big Balls,
24hrs, Axel 863-0252 E00

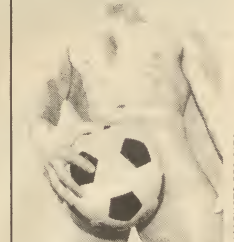
HOT HAWAIIAN HUNK
27 smooth & muscular
for striptease massage or j/o
Shawn 255-4691 E02

Hairy bearded well hung man for
hire Steven 37 6'2" 180
431-5974 in or out. E02

MUSCLE HUNK

6ft, 28yo, 215# wants attn.
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Very Muscular
Incredible Legs
Genuinely Handsome
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Imagine yourself tied spread-eagle—
there's a short, hot bodybuilder top with some . . . unusual
devices. You hurt so good you don't know whether to shoot
or go blind! Safe? Hell, yes! Creative? Explore the bound-
aries of pleasure, pain, and sensuality with a stable, built,
experienced sadist. ROGER, 864-5566.
—Real S&M in a safe place—

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"TRY ME AGAIN; FOR THE FIRST TIME."
German Gladiator w/Knock-out Good
Looks & Enormous Long & Thick Slab of
Flesh! 864-0538 "Fritz" Always a Top
"SERIOUS CALLS ONLY, DON'T
WASTE MY TIME OR YOURS!"

• Truckers • Preppies • S & M
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Escorts
for a night on the
town... or a night you'll
never forget. STUDFINDERS

**Serving the Entire
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(415) 541-5000

FF, TT, B/D, TOYS
Gloves, Exp., Kinky, Andy, Husky,
5'9", 185, blond, mus., 861-2668
\$70 24hr. Safe. Exp. E00

"A Condom or a Casket"
6'4", 195#, hairy, ex-Army Sgt.
Chuck 431-1579 E01

★ \$40—Hot athlete. Hung nice. ★
★ Bill 441-1054 Massage, etc. ★ E01

**ALL-AMERICAN
BOY**
25 y.o. swimmer lays back for
WORSHIP.
Handsome, clean-cut, wholesome.
TREAT 775-3114 No B.S.

10 X 6 UNCUT PAGER -739-7674

COMPETITION B.B.
5'10", 225lbs., 52" ch.,
31" w, 28" th, Hung
Bigger, Harder • Vince
\$100, In-Out **495-6345**

9" STUDDUFFIN
very cute w/long dk hair, yummy
surfer top w/9", warm & fun.
Kurt 541-5616 E02

Hot Italian Bottom
23, hairy, 8", 80 in, 100 out
334-8245 Russell E02

Isn't It Romantic?
Tall, Handsome, 27 yrs.
Rich, 861-1362, in/out E02

HOT TOP
Handsome, professional man, 32,
6'8", 220, 7" x 5", brn/grn if
you're hot for it, call Brent
863-3823, \$80/\$100. E02

TALL BLACK STUD
Gd/kg, sexy, 6'4", 185 gym-toned
pounds. Well hung thick uncut
top. out only. Marshall 995-4746 E02

SPANKING, B&D \$40
ZOLT 771-8042 E01

NASTY BOYS

2 handsome studs
know what you need.
1 top • 1 versatile
You can't beat this team!
Jack & Brad
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HAWAIIAN HUNK
Defined Bronze Musc Gd/kg,
smooth, safe, vers., friendly. out-
calls only. Pete 995-2679. E02

SMOOTH TANNED BLOND
Bodybldr, 25yrs, 5'9", 150#, 8"
cut, a real hunk! Boyd 550-6833 E02

Big Butt Tall Hairy Blue-Eyed
Daddy. Chad 861-7014 E02

**MUSCLES
HARD CORE**
6', 260#, 22" a, 59" c, 28" t
Steve 563-5176

FRAT BOY
Dominant • Verbal • Long Lasting
Horse Hung, Collegiate Jock
Masculine, Muscular
Swimmer's Build
Craig \$80 in/out
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Dial no. wait 3 bps Punch yr no. & # sign
Wait 3 bps again Hang up Pager 739-7527

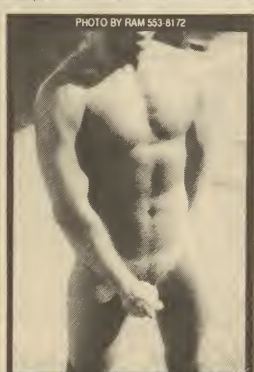
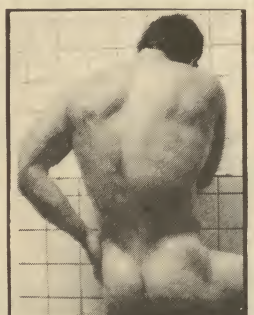


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252-0775
SEXY 8" UNCUT • HUNG ITALIAN



JASON
175 lbs., 5'8 1/2", 46" C, 29" W
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COCKY BOY DIGS WORSHIP

25 y.o. stud likes his
7" idol worshipped.
cocky; verbal; dominant.
\$100 in/out — No. B.S.
TONY 864-3133

BIG BEAUTIFUL TOOL NEEDS WORSHIP

Your Nice Hardware Serviced
Also. Sexy, Muscular, Friendly,
Hot. 6ft, 160lbs., 30yrs, Hung,
THICK 8". Visa/MC. Major
Hotels. Checks OK.
ORREL 985-9944

VISA San Francisco's
First Quality
Master Card Escort Service

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Bodybuilding Stars ★
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BAY AREA REPORTER SPORTS & FITNESS

Club Helps Wrestlers Achieve Their Best

by Gary L. France

Wrestling is one of the oldest known sports in the world, one of the original sports in the ancient Greek Olympic Games. Many of San Francisco's gay wrestlers enjoy the benefits of belonging to one of the community's oldest sports organizations, the Golden Gate Wrestling Club.

The club, a nonprofit corporation, is an officially sanctioned member of the United States Wrestling Association (USWA) and the Bay Area Wrestling Association (BAWA). Golden Gate is also the only sports organization with 100 percent membership in Team San Francisco.

Golden Gate's wrestlers operate under international "free-style" regulations, which currently provide for a single five minute period of wrestling. The wrestlers are started on their feet, facing towards each other. Once the referee gives the clock, the combatants must remain aggressive throughout the match. At the whistle, both wrestlers must move forward toward their opponent or risk being called for "stalling."

Aggressive Moves Win Points

Points are awarded for aggressive moves such as a takedown, where one wrestler takes another down off of his feet and assumes control. This move is usually awarded one point. If, during the takedown, the aggressor threatens the opponent's back, or lifts the opponent off his feet, then the aggressor could be awarded two points.

The ultimate goal of the wrestler is to pin his opponent. A pin is when the aggressor "pins" the opponent's shoulder blades to the mat, even momentarily. Back points are awarded to the aggressor when he threatens his op-



Golden Gate Wrestling secretary Carlis Sharpe, left, with Larry White in 1988 tourney. (Photo: S. Savage)

ponent with a pin.

The international rules are designed to provide for a lot of action. If there is no action for 15 seconds, the referee can stop the match and move the wrestlers back to the center to start again on their feet.

Organized by Don Jung in 1982, shortly before the first Gay Games, Golden Gate Wrestling has four officers and a board of directors. The current president is Gene Dermody, this writer is vice president. Carlis Sharpe is the club's secretary, and the treasurer is Mickey Bailey. Every member of the club is on the board of directors.

Diverse Activities, Membership

Golden Gate Wrestling hosts an annual tournament in San Francisco each October. In addition, the club participates in several other tournaments in the west. Golden Gate has sent wrestlers to both previous gay games and will be sending a team of about 25 to Vancouver in 1990.

The club is currently open to all experienced and new wrestlers. It boasts a racially diverse group of men, from 23 to 45 years of age, including former NCAA champions, Gay Games medal holders, and one former silver medalist from the Pan American Games.

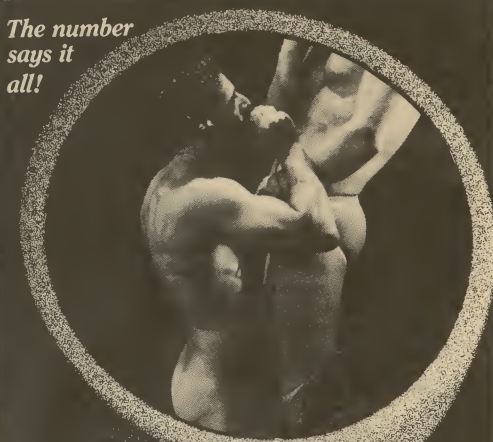
Three members are USWA certified coaches. The club currently practices Tuesdays and Fridays, 7 p.m., at the Eureka Valley Community Center, 150 Collingwood. The club will add a third, weekend day of practice in February or March to accommodate wrestlers who work nights.

The weekly practice fee is \$3. Yearly dues are \$55, payable each Sept. 1. The dues cover facility insurance, individual insurance and membership in USWA, BAWA and Team San Francisco. All persons interested in participating in the club or helping with tournaments or fundraising effort can call either Gene Dermody, 821-2991, or Gary France, 558-9195. ▼

The B.A.R. Staff
Wishes You A
Happy Holiday

DIAL 213 976-LOAD
415

The number
says it
all!



A different
horny hunk
every time
you call.

\$2 PLUS TOLL IF ANY.
ADULTS ONLY.

BOWLING

New Decade, New Hope

by Will Snyder

MCMXC. 1990. A new year, a new decade. And maybe, new hope.

What do these incomplete sentences have to do with ten-pins and beer belches, the standard clichés of the bowling centers of the world?

Perhaps more than we think. Just seeing a new set of Roman numerals has to have some kind of positive effect. When I saw those Roman numerals in the Dreamland ad in the Dec. 21 *Bay Area Reporter*, the first thing that struck me was, "The 1980s are over. Finally. Thank God."

As an editor and reporter for this paper during the 1980s, I had an opportunity to drink in the personalities and the sights of a decade that historians, I am sure, will think of in a negative way.

I remember one time in 1987

when I interviewed Amway President Richard DeVos (an original member of President Reagan's puppet version of an AIDS Commission) and Presidential Policy Advisor Gary Bauer, who put that commission together. DeVos spouted nothing but Calvinist judgments against people with AIDS and gay people while Bauer spoke in insincere doublespeak ("Hey, tell your readers I'm really a nice guy!").

I thought of them late last summer when I joined with a small circle of friends and spread the ashes of a good friend and former bowler, David Cafferty, near his beloved Polly, who had gone before him. When I saw that Dreamland ad, I also remembered there had been other bowlers at Japantown Bowl who had gone, too. I remember one team which put zany names which always ended with

"LaTuna" on the computer screens. And, I remember the night when JTown's Terry Kaplan, who is straight, joined us with a moment of silence for the one LaTuna (whose real name escapes me at the moment) who had just died.

I thought about that moment last week when I was talking to Rick Hedden and Doug Shipman, a couple of new bowlers in our Wednesday Community League. Rick told me a little about his past life, maturing as a gay man in Tulsa, Oklahoma, while being the proud father of a pair of beautiful children. Rick described how he and Doug and a couple of other guys had made "The Big Move" to the Bay Area.

A couple of other Community League bowlers, Lee Meyerpete and Pete Czech, did the same thing, moving from Milwaukee and bringing a zany sense of

(Continued on page 49)

The Action Line

Updated Bulletin Board

For Men Only

976-5400

\$2 + Toll, If Any

GTF's Dan Hartsuff

Tribute to An Unsung Hero

by Les Balmain

In many volunteer sports organizations, there are the "spotlighted" leaders and the following general membership. But fortunately there is often a dedicated behind-the-scenes worker, who performs all the tedious tasks required to make the organization a success. Dan Hartsuff was that person.

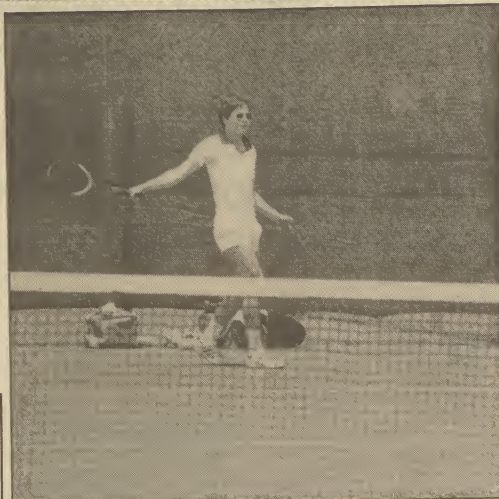
Dan joined the Gay Tennis Federation of San Francisco in

July 1980, as one of the original thirteen charter members. For the next six years he attended every monthly membership meeting without missing one, a record that most likely will never be broken.

Dan was elected and diligently executed the following offices: 1982, secretary; 1983, secretary; 1984, treasurer; and 1985, sergeant-at-arms. All the unsung

heroes of other leagues will understand and appreciate the enormous effort that Dan contributed to the GTF during his four years in office.

Those tedious tasks included: attending regular membership meetings, attending executive board meetings, attending committee meetings, recording and publishing the monthly minutes, mailing the monthly newsletters,



Dan Hartsuff at the first "USGO" National Tennis Tour in 1981.

(Photo: Chuck Gee)



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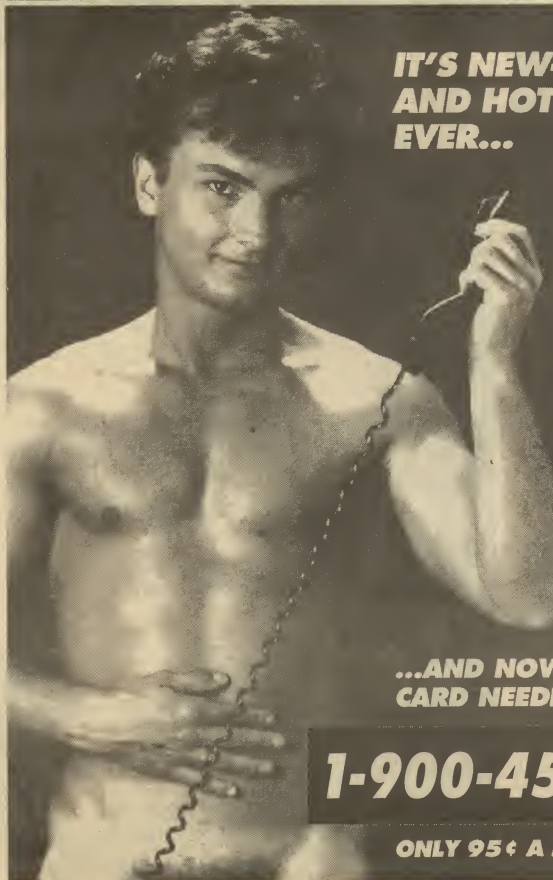
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and maintaining the year around challenge ladder.

Dan was the Team Tennis captain for the following teams: 1981, Sutter's Mill; 1982, Blue-stone Video (Jim Holloran sponsor); 1983, 1984 and 1985, the Pilsner Inn.

As a member of the GTF 1982 tennis team of the top eighteen players in the Third Annual Los Angeles Challenge played in Studio City in April, Dan won his singles match and with Mario Mora as his partner won his doubles match.

In 1984, he won the Class B Consolation Championship in the Fifth Annual Membership Tournament in September at Golden Gate Park.

At the First Annual GTF Awards banquet on Oct. 16, 1982, Dan was presented the "Mr. Roll Call" award. At this year's awards banquet, held on Nov. 18, Dan was fittingly awarded the President's "Special Service Award."

Dan Hartsuff was born on Jan.

10, 1956 in Pontiac, Michigan and passed away on Nov. 26, 1989 in San Francisco. He was a very youthful competitor of only 33 years of age. Dan is the 13th member of the Gay Tennis Federation who has succumbed to AIDS.

He is survived by his mother Cail Lynn and sister Amy Tedford. During the final six months of his illness, he was lovingly cared for daily by Janelle Hawkins and seven GTF members: Tom Kelly, Bob Viereck, Chuck Gee and Richard, Larry Soley, Rob McCann and Norman List.

Today, the Gay Tennis Federation has become one of the leading sports organizations in the United States, and the world for that matter, because of the devoted labor of love given to it by people like Dan Hartsuff. The members will miss you, Dan. We are sad to lose such a good friend, but happy to know that now you can play all the tennis you want and not have to worry about any mundane work!

POOL

Quackers Sweep

The San Marcos Cafe Quackers swept up a second consecutive San Francisco Pool Association City Championship last week by downing the Overpassers in back to back, tension-packed matches.

The first match took place at the Cafe, where a room full of spectators was treated to a 9-6 home team victory. The Overpassers hosted the second match, their team, the no. 2 seed, facing a must-win situation to force the tie-breaker and the best-of-three match series.

Their chances were improved when the Quackers' top rated player, E.Z., arrived unable to play due to a heavily bandaged hand, burned in a household accident.

The Quackers' starting lineup, Hugh Fountain, Luby Pelletier, Lauren Ward and Lisa Duncan rose to the call, firing off consecutive victories for a 4-0 first quarter lead. Key games were punctuated with "Duck huddles," where teammates Torri Connelly and E.Z. would join the starters to share some team spirit.

Rick Mariani and Jin Russo broke the ice for the home team but Ward and Duncan answered back for a 6-2 half-time lead.

Lynn Westhoven got on track for the 'Passers, posting two third

quarter wins, including a beautifully executed 7 ball runout vs. Ward, but Duncan and Fountain counterpunched to put the Quackers within a game of the title at 8-4.

The longest game of the evening ensued with Russo eventually outlasting Duncan and offering the home team a ray of hope at 8-5. Their celebration had barely subsided as Pelletier stepped up to break, exploded the rack, and sent the 8-ball on a bee-line to the corner pocket for the Championship game.

Next Stop, Long Beach

The next stop for the Quackers is Long Beach where they meet the Champions from three cities for West Coast Challenge XX, from Jan. 12-14. Besides team play, both Duncan and Pelletier will be joined by Mariani and Tom Williamson as Open Individuals entrants. Quackers co-captain, Ward, will be joined by Claire Boddy as players in the Women's Invitational. Playing in two WCC events will make for a very full weekend for those three competitors.

The Rising Star and Awards are coming up. Dial JOE-POOL for SFPA information.

Frank Demby Sprints Into Spotlight

by Rick Thoman

The success stories of the 1986 Gay Games were many, and as the 1990 Games approach, the stories for that event are beginning to evolve. One athlete with the potential of having a truly "golden" Gay Games is San Francisco sprinter Frank Demby.

According to his coach Hully Feticco, Demby is just now starting to achieve his true ability as a track athlete.

"I think he's just started to attain the times he is capable of running," Feticco says. "I see him getting much faster and much stronger and he's going to wind up surprising himself as well as the competition."

Demby's success is easily attributed to the three "T"s: talent, training and tenacity. While "talent" in sprinting can sometimes be over-rated as an indicator of success, the fundamentals of "training" are absolutely essential to achieve it. Demby has the talent; he also adheres to a rigorous training regimen. But his real success comes from his tenacity, the persistence and resolve to do the best he can.

Demby joined the San Francisco Track & Field Club in 1984 and has endured five seasons of mixed success, progressing from the back of the pack to leading the way to the finish line. He has gradually emerged from the shadows to a deserving place in the spotlight.

In the beginning, finishing last sometimes didn't matter as much to Demby as finishing the race did. He knew eventually he would work his way to the front of the pack, and his tenacity has paid off.

No longer a slow starter, busy chasing everyone else down the track to the finish line, Demby is now in the thick of the chase itself, and often the competition is chasing him.

Tenacity Pays Dividends

In January of this year, Demby's tenacity paid a big dividend. He shared the first Apex Award for track and field, and in February 1990, he could win his second. Along with Earl Bryant, Demby comprises the Track Club's dynamic duo of sprinting, the power, the grace and the glory of the 50, 100 and 200 meters. His personal achievements on the track in 1989 should help garner him a third Cable Car Award nomination.

During the 1989 season, Demby posted the team's best time in the 200 meters (24.2 seconds), improving .2 seconds in that event, and shaved an amazing .4 seconds off his 100 meter time for a personal best mark of 11.6 (the first time he'd ever dipped below the 12 seconds mark in that event). He also tied for the team's second best mark in the 50 meters.

In both the 4x100 and 4x400 relays, Demby has transformed from being an alternate to becoming an important link in the team that achieved national ranking in 1989. The top times in those two relays, as well as the 4x200, were all posted by teams that included Demby as a member.

"It would be hard to replace

Frank as the first leg of the 4x100 relay," teammate Frank Bryant says. "He gives the rest of us on the relay the confidence we need to run a real hard race. He runs the curve better than anyone else I've seen and he's been surprising the competition with his stinging speed."

Demby was instrumental in San Francisco's third-place finish at this year's National Masters Championship in San Diego. It was the first time the San Francisco men had achieved medal status at the prestigious National Championship meet.

And it was Demby who contributed a near flawless third leg in the 4x400 relay that put the team in third place. Just three years ago, he was a nervous substitute on the team's 4x400 relay at the New York National Championship meet. This year he ran with the confidence of the seasoned veteran in what was arguably the best leg on the bronze medal-winning relay squad.

Thrill of Personal Achievement

Not that Demby strives for



Frank Demby.

(Courtesy of Earl Bryant)

awards or medals or the recognition that comes from dangling them around your neck. Just watch him at a track meet and you'll know that his thrill comes from personal achievement, by running his best race ever, getting his body to move faster than it's ever gone before. He is the

type of athlete whose goal is to attain optimum performance and he's genuinely more pleased with a personal best time than he is with a gold medal.

"It doesn't mean winning isn't included in my goals," Demby says. "But it is necessary to keep it in perspective. Fame is a peculiarly transitory entity, especially in sports, and if accepted as such it adds a nice glow to one's own personal achievements. But, as we've often said to each other on the team, you're only as good as your last race."

"Frank is a bit of a perfectionist," his coach, Feticco, says. "He is always striving for a way to get his time down, to perform better, to be a better athlete. This is one of the reasons he's such an easy person to coach."

Demby knows what it means to perform for himself, to achieve his own personal goals, and what it's like to try to please others. At age seven, he began water skiing competitively, mostly at the insistence of his father who helped push Frank to four regional championship titles during his

eleven years of competition.

Today, Frank's father continues to support his son's athletic endeavors, but as a stopwatch totting observer in the stands.

As the elder Demby revealed at a meet earlier this year, "The reason track is so satisfying for Frank is that it's something he is achieving on his own. He only has to prove to himself how good he is, which is probably why it's more fulfilling to him than water skiing was."

Demby hopes his personal best will bring him an individual gold medal at the Gay Games in 1990. A spectator at the first games, he became a big medal winner at Gay Games II, where he won gold medals on the 4x100 and 4x200 relay squads, a silver on the 4x400 "B" relay team, and individual bronze medals in both the 100 and 200 meters.

As good as his times were in 1986, the 1990 improved version of the Demby speed machine should set new personal standards and should help make his dream of a Gay Games gold medal a reality. ▼



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(Continued from page 29)

Asked why a piece of paper was necessary if a marriage is in the heart, Jackson reminded Winfrey that the "legal aspects... would move it into a different realm where people would have to accept it a little more,"

Powerful, Articulate Spokespersons

Paris and Jackson proved themselves to be powerful, articulate spokespersons for gay rights and marriage. With a calm demeanor and a solid belief in themselves and their love for each other they spoke about what marriage means to them, why

The two noted that a family is not simply the sexual orientation of its parent members, but the love and compassion within which it operates. Oprah wanted to know why they came out of the closet to begin with.

"When Rod and I met," said Paris, "we found a spiritual bond between each other. And you develop this relationship and this move toward marriage and you find that if you bastardize it and you stick it back in your back pocket where no one can see it, then pretty soon you chip away pieces of that bit by bit until have nothing left.

"And I was really frustrated by my colleagues, my fellow profes-

About the risks both took by coming out, Jackson said, "We both believe true love would be much harder (to find) than making a living."

Terminology is important to Paris and Jackson, who refer to each other as "husband" and consider themselves spouses.

"We do not use the term 'lover' because we believe it connotes two unmarried people in a solely sexual relationship. Our relationship, and our marriage, is emotional, physical, spiritual, it covers all those bases."

Although Oprah listened to their words thoughtfully, it

became apparent she was having a little difficulty connecting the words she was hearing to the two men in front of her when she commented, "Never in... the world would anybody just look at you and think, 'You're gay.' I know all across America people are passing out... my God!"

Discussion of Gay Parenting Follows

The program shifted to a discussion of homosexuals and children with the introduction of Martha Popp and Alix Olson, lesbian mothers raising two children, who discussed the trouble they are having being recognized as a family.

The show became a high-powered and emotionally charged debate after the introduction of Gloria Allred, an L.A. attorney, who is an outspoken gay rights advocate, and two journalists who oppose gay marriage and adoption.

Winfrey began this segment by asking Allred why gay marriages need to be legalized.

"There are very important reasons why we need to have the law give recognition to lesbian and gay families," the attorney began. "One thing that is important is in a marriage a person knows what will happen in terms of child support and child custody. . . should their be a dissolution. . . or a death of one of the parties.

"In addition, it's important we know what will happen to the

division of property... and of course the rights of inheritance don't apply unless they make a will. So that there are all kinds of important reasons why they would like to have the same rights in a contract that the law presently provides to couples who do get what we call married."

Throughout the balance of the show, when the journalists began their assault on gay marriage/adoption as being sinful and a breakdown of traditional family and moral values, Allred jumped to the defense.

Allred, a married woman with children and grandchildren, became the true heroine of the show when, after the accusation that gay men are not proper role models for children, she exclaimed passionately, "I think they [Paris and Jackson] are excellent role models. They are role models of honesty, they are role models of integrity, they are role models for the truth and a loving, committed relationship."

As is usual with program formats of this type, there is never a feeling of resolution at program's end, however, one could not help feel that a powerful case for gay marriage and adoption had been presented on this show and that legalization of gay marriage will now be just a matter of time. Four days prior to the airing of this show, Paris and Jackson were in town (Dec. 15) for Bob's first-ever bodybuilding seminar in San Francisco, attended by 220 enthusiasts at Golden Gate Park's Hall of Flowers. ▼

(Continued from page 30)

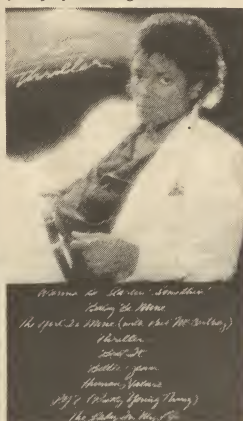
artists work via samples; music that is played with *real* instruments as opposed to an artist being backed by a computer whiz-kid electronically reproducing an entire orchestra; more brass sections; rap artists who find something more worthy to rap about than their sexual prowess; gay artists who take a stand on this side of the closet; record labels that assure their artists that should they decide to make

Top Albums of 1989:

1. *Don't Be Cruel*, Bobby Brown
2. *Hangin' Tough*, New Kids On The Block
3. *Forever Your Girl*, Paula Abdul
4. *New Jersey*, Bon Jovi
5. *Appetite For Destruction*, Guns 'N Roses
6. *The Raw & The Cooked*, Fine Young Cannibals
7. *G 'N R Lies*, Guns 'N Roses
8. *Traveling Wilburys*, Traveling Wilburys
9. *Hysteria*, Def Leppard
10. *Girl You Know It's True*, Milli Vanilli
11. *Skid Row*, Skid Row
12. *Like A Prayer*, Madonna
13. *Vivid*, Living Colour
14. *Beaches*, Original Motion Picture Soundtrack
15. *Winger*, Winger
16. *Electric Youth*, Debbie Gibson
17. *Giving You The Best That I Got*, Anita Baker
18. *Shooting Rubberbands At The Stars*, Eddie Brickell
19. *Full Moon Fever*, Tom Petty
20. *Open Up And Say... Ahh!*, Poison

their sexual preference known, they will lose no support in any way from the label, because in the end, it's the music that counts; radio stations that are daring enough to put aside patterned-molded-cycled-formats that rob great artists like **Miki Howard, Regina Belle, Stephanie Mills, Peabo Bryson, and Angela Winbush** of the cross-

over attention that they deserve; on a broader note, we'd like to see radio drop the format labels and just play what's good!



We predict that by 1991, the 45 rpm single will be a thing of the past. By 1992, LP's will join the 45 in the history books. Recordable compact disc decks will be available for the home by 1991 (yea!). Sales of digital audio tape (DAT) decks will flounder.

The Rear-View

Ten years ago this week, **Prince** had the no. 1 Soul Single with "I Wanna Be Your Lover." Twenty years ago this week, **Steam** was at no. 1 with "Na Na Hey Hey Kiss Him Goodbye."

See you on the other side in 1990! ▼

Softball Tryouts In Early January

The Corral Ranch Hands softball team will be holding tryouts for their 1990 softball team on Saturday, Jan. 6, 11 a.m. at Kimball Field, Steiner and O'Farrell streets. Four positions are open on the team. The team will be participating in the recreational division, and tryouts are open to women as well as men. For further information, contact Mark Fielder at 626-5334. ▼

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Bowling

humor to a geographical area in need of some chuckles (their bowling teams have been called "Obnoxious Vermin," "Bottom of the Bucket," and soon, "Dead Yuppies Society," ... sorry about that, Robin).

And then, there are others, too. In the last year, I have been happy to know Carol Hull, also straight, Don George, Dan Burley, et. al. who have worked hard while turning Bowler Emergency Aid Relief (B.E.A.R.) into a social/sports organization that cares for bowlers with any kind of terminal illness. Bravo, too, to our friend at Park Bowl, Mal Garcia, for his input on this wonderful idea.

Oh, one other thing about that Dreamland ad. The artist, Gary Baker, also happens to be a Japantown bowler. We're pretty proud of our bowlers.

So, the 1980s are almost over. It will be a decade to remember

for its selfishness and corruption. But it will also be a decade to remember for the good people. We lost some good folks, but we also received some new good ones, too, from Tulsa and Milwaukee, and probably from Tuscaloosa and Houston and Bridgeport and Keokuk, as well as New York and Los Angeles.

As Steinbeck's Ma Joad once said, "We're the People." They (and "They" know who "They" are) tried to knock us down. And we have been down for the count.

Here are the 200 or better scores in Community League action for the last two weeks, beginning with Dec. 10:

Sunday Reno League, Dec. 10: Larry Fuller (169 average) 201; Vince DiColla (170) 200 and 222; Ken Kalani (179) 207.

Monday Community/Gay Games League, Dec. 11: Todd Brooks (185) 203.

Tuesday Community League, Dec. 12: Steve Valone (152) 223; Jeff Turner (163) 212; Don Gambell (187) 214; Jerry Gershoff

(159) 201; Bob Bates (163) 201; Tim Mulvenon (188) 201; Rick O'Brien (187) 235; Scott Miller (166) 201.

Wednesday Community League, Dec. 13: Michael Amaro (158) 222; Gregg Lambdin (176) 223 and a 605 series; Kathy Perkins (148) 213; David Tangredi (197) 234; Edward Wang (153) 206; Rudy Iranon (157) 245; Steve Schepis (154) 217 and 201.

Thursday Community League, Dec. 14: Jim Barnes (168) 200; Cliff Russell (154) 208.

Friday Community League, Dec. 15: Marc Gottschall (162) 201.

Saturday Gay Games League, Dec. 16: David Arnold (186) 204; Don Gambell (172) 201.

Sunday Reno League, Dec. 17: David Harte (155) 224; Dean Steiner (155) 225; Larry Fuller (169) 204; Richard Jones (173) 225.

Monday Community/Gay Games League, Dec. 18: Chuck Adkins (186) 202; Jerry Williams (150) 208.

Tuesday Community League, Dec. 19: Steve Valone (152) 223; Jeff Turner (163) 212; Don Gambell (187) 214; Jerry Gershoff (159) 201; Bob Bates (163) 201; Tim Mulvenon (188) 201; Rick O'Brien (187) 235; Scott Miller (166) 201.

Wednesday Community League, Dec. 20: Pete Czech (158) 202; Nancy Thinnies (161) 204; Andy Dacanay (145) 204; Todd Brooks (186) 212 and 232; Greg Hettmansperger (167) 214; Rudy Iranon (160) 203; Michael Smith (163) 210.

Thursday Community League, Dec. 21: Rick Wright (138) 211 and 217.

And here's one that slipped by us ... Wednesday Community League: Richard Schnitgen (134) 210. Richard's lover, Hugh Swaney, brought this to our attention. Hugh said he's been torturing Richard, saying his game will never make it into the paper while all the while planning to point it out to us!

Happy New Year, Richard and Hugh ... and Happy New Year to one and all.

Speakers Sought For Asian AIDS Project

The Asian AIDS Project's Speakers Bureau is a team of people who go out to the communities of Asians and Pacific Islanders to provide basic AIDS education.

The next training for people interested in participating in the Speakers Bureau will be Jan. 20 at 300 - 4th St., Suite 401 (corner of 4th & Folsom in the South of Market area).

The training will run from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Bilingual and bicultural people familiar with the Asian and Pacific Islander communities are strongly urged to join. People able to speak during the daytime are also particularly needed.

For an interview and to register, please contact Lori Lee at the Asian AIDS Project, 227-0946. ▼

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COUNSELOR

Project for gay male victims of domestic violence needs 40% time
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work. MSW MFCC or PhD and experience working with victims cover letter and resume to CUAV, 514 Castro, 94114. People of color encouraged to apply. no calls. E52

WRITERS WANTED

The B.A.R. is looking for writers for its Arts and Sports and Fitness sections. Those interested in applying should send writing samples and a resume to the B.A.R., 395 Ninth St., San Francisco, CA 94103. E52

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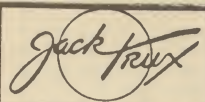
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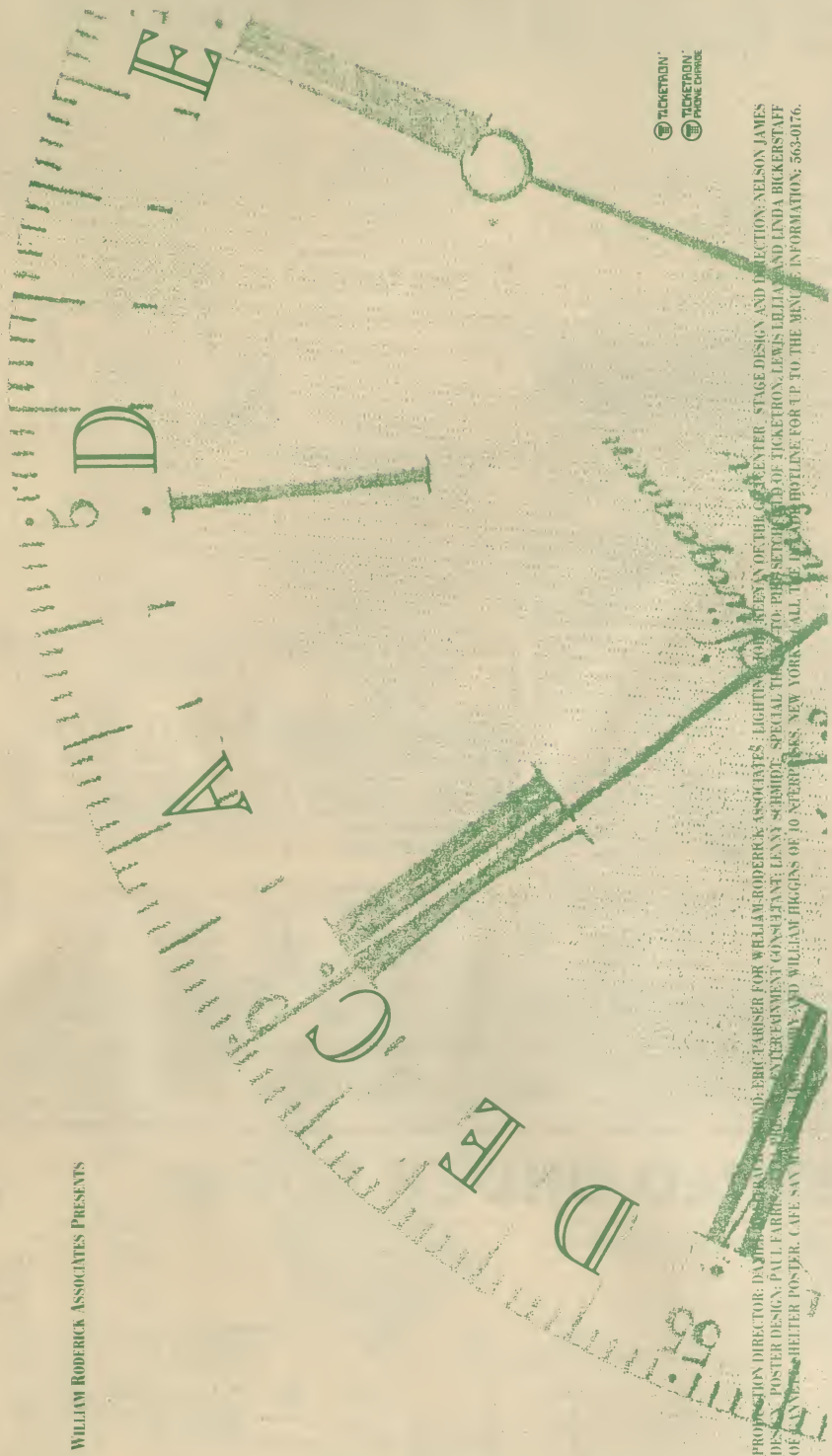
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